60¢

The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

NOVEMBER 6th, 1980 ★ VOLUME 15, NUMBER 45

COD TIME

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEW-PORT AM	NEW-PORT PM	DATE
THUR.	6:35	6:55	7:30	7:45	7:20	7:35	8:10	8:30	10:40	11:05	10:00	10:25	6:25	6:45	11/6
FRI.	7:15	7:25	8:00	8:20	7:55	8:10	8:40	9:05	11:05	11:30	10:35	11:00	7:05	7:25	11/7
SAT.	7:50	8:05	8:35	8:55	8:25	8:45	9:15	9:45	11:10	11:40	11:10	11:35	7:45	8:05	11/8
SUN.	8:25	8:40	9:10	9:30	9:00	9:20	9:50	10:25	11:30	–	11:45	–	8:20	8:40	11/9
MON.	9:00	9:15	9:45	10:05	9:30	9:55	10:25	11:00	12:00	12:05	12:15	12:25	9:00	9:25	11/10
TUE.	9:35	9:55	10:25	10:45	10:00	10:35	11:05	11:45	12:35	12:45	12:50	1:00	9:40	10:10	11/11
WED.	10:20	10:40	11:05	11:35	10:35	11:20	11:45	–	1:20	1:30	1:35	1:45	10:25	10:55	11/12
THUR.	11:05	11:35	11:55	–	11:30	–	12:35	12:35	2:05	2:15	2:20	2:30	11:20	11:50	11/13

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

11/7	6:41	4:47
11/8	6:42	4:46
11/9	6:43	4:45
11/10	6:44	4:44
11/11	6:45	4:43
11/12	6:46	4:42
11/13	6:47	4:41

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
11/7	11/15	11:22	11/29

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM **Major**	PM Minor	PM **Major**
Thurs.	2:55	**9:25**	3:25	**9:45**
Fri.	3:35	**10:05**	4:00	**10:25**
Sat.	4:15	**10:50**	4:40	**11:15**
Sun.	5:00	**11:40**	5:30	—
Mon.	5:50	**12:05**	6:15	**12:35**
Tues.	6:50	**12:55**	7:05	**1:25**
Wed.	7:40	**1:55**	8:05	**2:20**
Thurs.	8:35	**2:50**	9:00	**3:15**

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About the Cover—

Election Day marks the "opening" of the cod season here on L.I. On the cover, the coup-de-grace is about to be applied to a big cod. Photo by Tim Coleman.

COMING NEXT WEEK: **Western L.I. Sound**

Richard Reina, PUBLISHER
Al Ristori, ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Pete Barrett, NEW JERSEY EDITION
W. A. Muller, MANAGING EDITOR
Stu Miller, ADVERTISING MANAGER
Tim Coleman, NEW ENGLAND EDITION
Fred Golofaro, EDITOR
Rick Reina, PRODUCTION MANAGER

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Pass It On...

TOURNAMENT NEWS

The 4th Annual All Clubs Invitational Codfish Tournament will be held Saturday, November 15, 1980 (alternate Sunday, November 16, 1980).

Team: four (or less) boats, with an entry fee of $60 per boat. Prizes will be Penn International and Senator Reels.

A Captains meeting will be on November 13, 1980. For information and entry forms call: Nassau: Jack Harrigan, (516) 731-6375; Suffolk: John Suss (516) 661-5936.

ROD BUILDING INSTRUCTION

You can learn to create your own custom fishing rod with free individual instruction at Merrick Tackle Center, 2655 Merrick Road, Bellmore, on Saturdays and Sundays, beginning November 8, 1980 between the hours of 9AM and 5PM. No appointment is necessary.

Beginners may wish to bring an old fishing rod to practice basic skills in rod building and wrapping. More advanced craftspersons will be instructed in the finer points of design and construction, including: how to plan, select and place guides, fancy rod wrapping such as diamond wraps, and installation of reel seats, grips, butts, etc.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY TUNA CLUB

The Sheepshead Bay Tuna Club is looking for new members. You do not have to be a giant tuna fisherman; you do not have to ever want to fish for tuna, but just someone who enjoys fishing, likes to talk about it, and listen to others. The Club meets on designated Monday evenings at the Brooklyn Yacht Club building at the foot of Voorhies Ave., just off Knapp Street in the Sheepshead Bay area.

Why not call Dr. Alan Michaelson at (212) 338-2969 for more information and come down to the next meeting.

HANDBOOK HELPS CITIZENS SAVE ENDANGERED RIVERS

Concerned citizens who wish to save the country's wild and scenic rivers will find invaluable help in the recently updated handbook, "Flowing Free."

Originally published by the River Conservation Fund in 1977 and now supplemented, "Flowing Free" describes how rivers and river corridors can be protected by inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and details alternatives for saving rivers at the state and local levels. Flowing Free provides guidelines and suggestion for citizen

projects which can help initiate the long process of designating a river as officially wild or scenic. Particular attention is paid to the effects of recent legislation, especially the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978.

"The process works," remarked Howard Brown, president of the River Conservation Fund. "With legislation passed by the Congress in 1978 which added eight rivers, there are now 29 rivers in the system. However, it takes time, energy and persistence by those who really want to save our free-flowing river heritage," Mr. Brown added.

"For too long, the rivers of this country have been threatened by damming, rechanneling, overdevelopment, and pollution," Mr. Brown continued. "In passing the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act in 1968, protecting designated stretches of rivers in their original and natural state, Congress hoped to preserve valuable and splendid natural resources. That Act means little unless concerned citizens, whether river recreationists, conservationists, riverfront landowners, or indeed, anyone who enjoys the beauties of our free-flowing rivers, make a concerted and long-term effort to apply the law effectively.

"This is the very reason we originally published "Flowing Free" and why we have now supplemented that edition—to help people across the country know how to make this important Act work," Mr. Brown added.

The River Conservation Fund is a nonprofit, educational organization committed to saving free-flowing rivers throughout the United States. Its sister group, the American Rivers Conservation Council, is a lobby organization working for river protection legislation.

The nearly 100-page, well-illustrated pamphlet answers almost every question anyone might ask about river preservation, and includes extensive discussion of all pertinent legislation, details how to encourage and develop broad-based citizen support, and features three actual case studies. "Flowing Free," with its supplement, is available for $4, which includes postage and handling (discounts on quantity orders), and may be ordered from: "Flowing Free," River Conservation Fund, 323 Pennsylvania Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C. 20003; (202) 547-0010.

SPECIAL ON STRIPERS TO BE TELEVISED BY ABC

On Saturday, November 8, at 7:30 p.m., the ABC program "Airmail Special" will include a segment on the catching and research of stripers in the Metropolitan Area.

Local anglers Guy and Bill DiBlasio will be shown collecting specimens with hook and line for striped bass specialist Byron Young of the State DEC.

It promises to be an interesting piece of footage, so be sure to tune in.

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The recently rejuvenated Florida League of Anglers has demonstrated to other state groups just how effective such an organization can be in shaping state fisheries policies. The League's major recent effort has been to ban the use of wire fish traps in Florida's waters. They came close in 1979, but profited from their mistakes. This year they got their organization together before the legislative session and got the fish trap ban passed quite easily.

According to Vice President Rolland Franzen, the

NATIONAL SCENE

with Al Ristori

IMPRESSIVE GAINS BY F.L.A.

impressive gains of 1980 were due to the fact that recreational fishermen finally realized that they must organize, propose reasonable solutions, and present a united front. For the first time, divers, sport charter, headboat, and commercial hook and line fishermen (groups that heretofore rarely communicated, much less cooperated) united behind the FLA trap bill, supported by the Florida Wildlife Association, the Audubon Society, and other organizations.

In a recent letter to sport fishing leaders, Franzen pointed out that though FLA was successful in the wire fish trap fight (these traps threatened to wipe out reef fisheries and destroy fragile corals), "one of our weaknesses became readily apparent: inadequate communication between all organizations of common interest before the fact rather than after when it is too late." The Florida League of Anglers realizes that the fisheries management councils aren't strong enough to turn the tide, and Franzen notes that "NMFS has changed its name, but not its spots. It is still the 'Bureau of Commercial Fisheries'."

Without a doubt, Franzen's remarks are correct. Sport fishing organizations have traditionally been weak and disorganized. That will have to change if our fisheries are to be saved, and I hope that the American Sportfishing Federation can be the catalyst in effecting that change. Strong state organizations are a must, but we also need an "umbrella" organization to provide outside support and help raise funds. Florida and Virginia are examples of states with effective sport fishing organizations which have effectively lobbied for remedial legislation. However, there's a crying need for similarly effective groups in every coastal state.

The Florida League of Anglers is now pushing a ban on the netting of king mackerel in Florida waters. The introduction of massive roller gill nets and spotter planes a few years ago has had a very negative impact on kingfishing in the state. The first big effort of the roller gill net fleet was in the Fort Pierce area. For many years, that area has been fished by hundreds of commercial handliners who have supplied the markets with lots of high quality kingfish without interfering with the operations of the sport fleet. The FLA presents the records of one commercial hook and line fisherman to demonstrate what has happened since the netters moved in. Back in 1965 this fisherman accounted for 45,284 kingfish in the four major months of December, January, February, and March. Between then and 1977, when netting started in the Fort Pierce area, his catch never fell below 27,878—and was usually in the 35,000 to 45,000 range. In 1977 his catch dropped to a new low of 25,244, but that was only a warning of what was to come. In 1978 it was down to 18,436, and last year hit a disastrous 7,546. It's little wonder that physical confrontations have occurred in the area, and that this gear conflict situation has taken up a good deal of time of both the Florida Department of Natural Resources and the South Atlantic Council. Unfortunately, compromise solutions offered so far have not been effective, and the FLA has had no choice but to go for the complete ban on kingfish netting in order to preserve the fishery.

Last winter the netters moved into the last big concentration of kings in the State's waters when they drove hook and liners off their grounds around Key West. The outlook for kingfishing this winter is not a good one, and it's unlikely that anything will be turned around until the State can put some real clamps on the massive netting operations.

Fortunately, the Florida League of Anglers has the resources to fight any attempt to nullify the wire fish trap bill passed this year. According to the latest "National Fisherman," the Southeastern Fisheries Association and Organized Fishermen of Florida are both planning to challenge the new law and go to court if necessary in order to overturn it. Bob Jones and Jerry Samson, executive directors of these strong commercial organizations are confident they can beat the law. Both men are council members and have very good connections to NMFS and many politicians; so the FLA is going to have a tough time on their hands fending off that challenge.

An interesting development in Florida has been the appointment of a Saltwater Fisheries Study and Advisory Council to adopt a state fisheries management plan. This thirteen member panel has eighteen months in which to come up with a policy that will be acceptable to all groups. Sport members are Franzen, outdoor writer Harlan Franklin, and tackle rep George Foti.

Slaughter of Dolphins in Japan Points Up Future Man/Mammal Conflicts

World-wide attention has been focused on the massacre of dolphins at Iki Island, off Japan's southwestern coast, during the past few years. According to a National Wildlife Federation news release, the local fishermen have become alarmed in recent years by ever-increasing numbers of dolphins in their waters—possibly because overfishing in other areas has made Iki one of the few places they can find food. The dolphin population around Iki is now placed at about 300,000, and these mammals that eat ten percent of their body weight daily have been taking fish right off the fishermen's lines. The fishermen started reacting in 1976, when they killed 223 dolphins. In 1977 the number increased to 950, and in 1978 to 1,368. Despite world-wide indignation, the kill went up to 1600 in 1979 and is continuing this year.

While Americans unanimously condemn the slaughter, it should be pointed out that this problem is by no means unique to Japan. American tuna clippers have killed hundreds of thousands (if not millions) of porpoises over the years in the course of netting tuna under the mammals who give away the tunas' location. Though this killing isn't deliberate, it takes a far greater toll than the Japanese slaughter. The fact of the matter is that as demand increases and fish get scarcer, some very basic decisions must be made regarding the relationship of man and mammal in relation to the fish that constitute a food source for both. On land that question has almost always been answered very simply by elimination of competing animals. Farming takes precedence, and when animals interfere with the harvest of food they're shot or trapped. Right now we rebel at the thought of killing friendly, intelligent ocean mammals just because they compete with us for food. So far there is plenty to go around in most cases. However, it's interesting to look ahead to periods of possible food scarcities and wonder whether we'll feel the same way under those circumstances?

ALL THAT GLITTERS

If there is one type of lure that needs no introduction to those who frequent the suds, it must surely be that haphazardly grouped collection of metal lures classified as tins.

Also referred to as "metal" by some casters, the label covers a wide variety of lures. Among those that fall into the broad category of "tins" are spoons such as the Krocodile and the Tri-Fin Spoon Jig, flat-sided versions such as the Hopkins and Kastmaster, sand eel jigs, diamond jigs, and keel type models such as the J-8.

Covering a broad range of shapes and sizes, there are occasions when bass, blues or weaks become selective and only a particular type of metal lure will produce.

A perfect case in point occurred a number of years ago at Democrat Point on Fire Island. On a warm, sunny August afternoon, an elderly couple piled school bass like cord wood using Charlie Grave's version of the J-8 Jig, while Richie Simmons and myself could do nothing with our varied collection of metal lures which, for some reason, did not include any J-8s on that particular day.

Returning the following morning armed with a good supply of the deep running jigs, Richie, his brother Rob, and myself put away nearly sixty schoolies in the five to ten pound range, while casters lacking the "hot lure" managed only a few bass apiece.

While you can't carry every type of tin available, you should tote along a few different models in various weights and sizes.

Among the virtues of metal lures is the castability, even into the teeth of a stiff onshore wind. On days when game fish are lying just out of range of wind-resistant plugs, tins can often spell the difference between success and failure.

Another advantage these lures have over plugs is their hook-holding ability. Fish taken on plugs have the uncanny ability to use the body of the lure as leverage to gain their freedom. Either by working the treble free, or in some cases, simply straightening the hook. Most tins come armed with a single feathered hook. Those that don't, should be refitted in such a manner. Very few fish taken on single-hook tins are dropped—which is a lot more than can be said for plug-hooked gamesters.

The versatility of these lures is most evident in the number of ways they can be presented. They can be retrieved fast or slow and fished deep, shallow, or in-between.

By far, the most productive method to fish these lures is to allow them to sink before beginning your retrieve. Incorporating short, gentle lifts of the rod tip with a slow retrieve will frequently take fish when a steady retrieve will not. Fishing tins in this manner will often result in your taking bass or weakfish, which tend to do most of their feeding down near the bottom, while other anglers settle for blues. At times, a high speed retrieve which causes the lure to skitter and bounce along the surface is highly effective, particularly if it is bluefish you are after.

While "metals" are always categorized as daytime lures, not a season goes by when some caster fails to dent the local game fish population by going against the grain and resorting to tin after dark for one reason or another. On bright, moonlit nights, your chances of scoring with a tin are greatly enhanced, I suppose. But personally, I would wear all of the paint off of my favorite plugs before snapping on a tin at night.

There are several ways to enhance the productivity of tins. First and foremost is the use of a feathered dropper or teaser rigged a couple of feet ahead of your lure. Most plug fishermen are familiar with the effectiveness of this addition, yet for reasons that escape me, do not apply them when using metal.

On a frosty morning last October at Westhampton Beach, I found myself pulling one blue after another and at times, taking double-headers on a #3 Hopkins with a pink feathered dropper ahead of it.

As a dozen or so other casters joined the fray, I realized that I was the only one pulling fish despite the fact that those casters nearest to me on both sides had by now switched to the same Hopkins lure I was using. It was obvious that the dropper was making the difference and this was confirmed a bit later when I passed several of the feathered teasers out to nearby anglers. It wasn't long before they, too, were piling fish on the beach.

Last season saw some nice catches of bass and weaks made on tins fitted with a teaser tube in place of a plain or feathered hook. Red was popular for awhile and then towards the end of October, black tubes seemed to produce better. Make sure your surf bag carries at least one or two of these potentially deadly combos in 1980.

Just as pluggers rely heavily on paint to improve the fish-catching ability of hunks of wood and plastic, so do some surfmen use it on their tins. White, black, yellow, red, and any combination of these colors have all taken fish at one time or another. How about spraying your favorite metal lure blue when mullet abound in the surf? I haven't gotten around to it yet, but I'll bet it works!

I don't suppose I would be sticking my neck out any if I said that more bass, blues and weaks have been landed on tin along our Island's beaches the past two seasons than everything else combined. With the continued abundance of small bait in our waters, I don't expect that 1980 will be any different!

This husky schoolie fell for a well presented "tin" at Montauk.

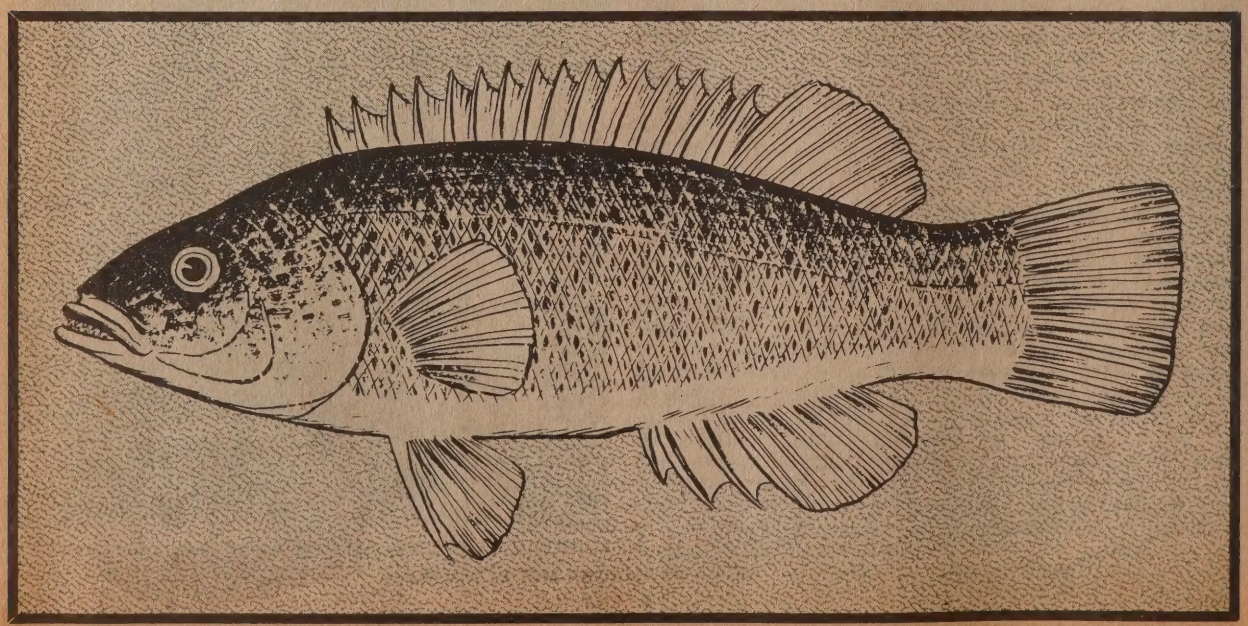
FISH TALK
with William A. Muller

WHAT PURPOSE?

BERGALLS. Recently Tony Lopy, Jr. of New York City wrote to tell us about an interesting experience he had. "I'm a subscriber to your great magazine and I love it. I can honestly say that I look forward to receiving your magazine as earnestly as receiving a long-awaited payment check. Well, the purpose of this letter is to secure some information. I don't know how important it is for other readers, but it's very important to me and my two sons. On a recent trip for porgy in Long Island Sound, I took both boys fishing. One I know is going to be a very serious fisherman because he looks and listens and imitates other fishermen. My other son is the sensitive one who is afraid of worms, fish, etc. However, he likes to catch fish. By the way, my boys are seven and eight years old. Well, here we are fishing when all of a sudden people start catching the ever-popular fish: the bergall. I'm quite used to this, but my sons aren't. Therefore, they were somewhat upset when they saw other fishermen taking the fish and smashing them on the deck because they are considered trash fish. I just take them off the hook and throw them back. My sons started asking me why people treat the bergalls so poorly and I told them as honestly as I could that they do so because the fish has a lot of bones and people don't want to eat them. The bergalls interfere with catching other desirable species like blackfish and porgies. Of course, my boys said that was no reason to just kill them and I agreed with them. The question is, what purpose does the bergall have in the sea? Some of the fishermen on the boat told my sons that bergalls are useless. I told the boys that that isn't so and that everything in Nature has a function. I promised them that I'd get the answer, so your help would be appreciated. I'm sure it won't be the last time that they are exposed to this, but at least they can learn to be concerned towards our environment and be better fisher**boys**." I couldn't agree with you more, Tony.

EVERYTHING HAS ITS PURPOSE! The process of evolution has been a long one and during the span of about 3.3 billion years, Nature has experimented with many variations of life. Although the earth changes continuously, and thus life must change too, at any given point in the history of life on this planet, the species of animals and plants that do exist represent the best life possible under the conditions and considerations of efficiency, usefulness, and adaptation. That's a long-winded way of saying that anything alive has a value and a purpose. If it didn't, it would become extinct. In the case of bergalls, they are the vacuum cleaners of the inshore ocean and estuaries. They live around bottom structure and clean up what is left by other creatures. These leftovers might otherwise foul the environment and make it unfit for the myriad of creatures that normally inhabit the area. Yes, most folks used to think of sea robins, blowfish, skates, and bergalls—to name a few—as useless pests or trash fish. Nothing could be further from the truth. After dozens of years of killing pesty blowfish, now we wish we had some of them back because we can appreciate them as bottom fighters and as table fare. Bergalls are edible, too, and I know more than one old salt who savors fillets of the bigger specimens. Many fishermen had contempt for the sea's creatures, but slowly most have learned the hard lesson that all of Nature's beasts are of enormous value.

REMORAS: MORE! Ken Hlavacek of Port Washington had some help on the question of remora swimming in and out the gill slits of sharks. "In reference to Jim Curto's letter on remora in the gills of blue sharks, I offer this. Having worked a charter boat in Hawaii for some years, it was very common to see remora fish in the gills of blue and striped marlin. Many times almost completely hidden except for the tail. Sometimes they would be removed and thrown back for they are considered 'Good Luck' fish by many skippers, but they do make excellent skip and live bait for dolphin fish." Well, Ken, as we said at the time we aren't shark experts. We did offer what we thought to be a reasonable explanation and we did ask around among friends who are known to know their sharks. If you say that you found remoras in the gills of billfish, then I have to accept that since you were the Hawaiian skipper—not me. However, a remora attached to the gills of a large billfish such as marlin is not the same thing as remoras swimming in and out of the gill slits of a shark. Access for a remora to the slits of a shark would not be as easy as for the gills of a marlin, since in the shark the gills lead to the surface via slits and there are no gill covers to expose the large surface area of the gills as is true in bony fishes. Ken, your observations are interesting and I'm sure they can be confirmed by other offshore skippers and we thank you for taking the time to write in.



PURPOSE: MUSSELS FOR FLOUNDER? Sheiji Sakai of Valley Stream recently posed an interesting question. "I have an entry for the Ugly Stik contest. Why do flounders take mussel baits? The mussel lives on rocks and pilings above the low tide level and flounders do not exist there. Also, I'd like to know how flounder eat the meat of hard-shelled clams and other shelled animals. Since they don't have strong crusher-like teeth, like the blackfish, how do they open them? I am eleven-years-old and have been subscribing for four years, but I haven't found this information anywhere." Thanks for the letter. Your questions are good ones, but unhappily, we can't award you an Ugly Stik. Yet it is rewarding to get a letter from an eleven-year-old who already is deeply involved in fishing. I started out in fishing at a tender age and I've been in love with the sport ever since. Too bad that we can't involve more young people in fishing. Then maybe more folks would direct their energies into positive channels instead of crime, vandalisms and drugs. Perhaps too, more people of all ages would develop a better appreciation of our delicate environment. Now to your questions. First, although you may see mussels most often on rocks and pilings, that is by no means the only places where they live. Bank mussels, for example, live in dense colonies in bog (the decayed tops and woven roots of marsh grasses). Mussels also are found in beds on the bottom and often these beds are quite deep. Then, too, I have seen flounder feeding tight against the shore or against rocks. How do they eat the mussels? You're right. Flounders do not have crusher teeth, but they can feed on shellfish. In this sense, this question relates to the first. Creatures have evolved in diverse ways. A bluefish, for example, has a great set of sharp teeth and has speed. Thus, they can run down and chop up their prey. Striped bass, on the other hand, have neither and they suck in their prey and swallow it whole. To help them in this they have evolved a wide head and jaw and powerful muscles that allow them to generate a great deal of suction. Believe it or not, flounders can generate quite a bit of suction, too. Thus, they move up to a shellfish that has opened its shells and BINGO, they suck it out of the shell. In larger bivalves, they may get only a piece and in the tiny examples they'll suck in the whole beast—shell and all

HELP ON MARINE AQUARIA. H. Sternberg of Oceanside wrote in with some suggestions for those who wish to keep saltwater tanks at home, after he read comments in a recent Fish Talk column. "Many innovations have taken place that make the care of saltwater tanks today easier than ever before. I add dolomite rock base to the tank at the rate of one pound per gallon and that keeps the pH balanced. I use a biological filter that allows for the growth of anaerobic bacteria. It takes about forty-five to sixty days for the bacteria to develop, but once they do, they break down the protein wastes and keep the tank clean and clear. Porgies and sea bass are local species that are easiest for a beginner, but I have kept bass, weaks, snapper blues and blueclaw crabs together in a 125 gallon tank for three years. Don't just replace the water that evaporates, but there is no problem with water changes." Thanks, and it proves that we can all learn something everyday. The suggestions that you have made were new to me, but then again, I don't have marine tanks and I'm not up on the latest scoop. However, in my younger days I was a tropical fish fancier and I am well aware of how many things can go wrong. Some folks have a green thumb and also have developed a sixth sense about what to do and when to do it. Thus, my point was and is that saltwater aquaria can be expensive to put together and maintain and that the novice may encounter a number of special problems with saltwater that he or she might not have in freshwater, in spite of the advances you mention.

THANKS TO SAMUEL WEINSTEIN of Queens Village for telling us about some of his experiences blackfishing. Sam tells of how a few big fish have been lost in his fishing career only to be caught again by others within a short period of time with his rigs to prove it was the same fish. Sam, your experiences just go to prove Murphy's Law; that is, anything that can possibly go wrong will! In your case, catching those nice fish just wasn't in the cards and was in someone else's horoscope. Thus, you missed them and the other fella didn't. In most matters, things even out in time—fortunately! That doesn't make you feel any better at the time it happens, but then we do bask with even more delight later when you get your chance at some glory.

JUST A REMINDER! Last November, some of the best flounder fishing didn't get going until late November and early December. Usually, these things run in cycles and for a few years the pattern will hold before the briny shifts gears and follows another road. If you want some fillets for the freezer, it may be a good idea not to put that gear and boat away too early. The scene of last year's hot action for big flounders was Long Island Sound. Already this year, things are off to a good start. In the fall, many flounder sharpies suggest worm over mussels, but I'll stick with mussel. Regardless of time or place, mussels have always been good to me. However, as Matt Ahern recently suggested, it is probably a good idea to carry at least two baits because the flounder can get picky about its menu. Make sure that you have plenty of goodies for the chum pot too.

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LARGER MODELS ALSO AVAILABLE

Due to the severity of the winters here in the northeast, we are forced to do our entertaining indoors. As our local waters become frigid, warm weather species of fish such as bass, bluefish and weakfish migrate south. They are, in turn, replaced by cold water fish such as cod, halibut, haddock, pollack, whiting, and ling. These fine, dry white-fleshed fish make excellent table fare. It is quite possible to serve a complete gourmet

CAPTAIN'S TABLE

with Arlene Ricca

WINTER ENTERTAINING: APPETIZERS & SOUPS

dinner including appetizer and soup utilizing the above-mentioned winter fish.

The following is a list of recipes that are relatively inexpensive and easy to prepare:

APPETIZERS

Norwegian Spiced Appetizer

Ingredients:

3 lbs. boned cod, cut into serving pieces
salt and pepper
1/2 cup salad oil
3 onions, thinly sliced
1 clove garlic, minced
2 cups vinegar
2 bay leaves
1 tbsp. mixed pickling spices

Season fish lightly and fry in hot oil until light brown. Place in a baking dish. Brown onions and garlic in oil, season, and spread on the fish. Scald vinegar with bay leaves and pickling spices and simmer for 5 mins. Pour over fish. Bake at 325° for 45 mins. Chill. Will keep for a week refrigerated. Serves 24.

Oriental Codfish Appetizer

Ingredients:

1½ lbs. cod fillets, cut into thin strips
1/2 cup soy sauce
2 tbsps. Sherry
2 tbsps. sugar
1/2 tsp. ground ginger
1 clove garlic, mashed

Combine soy sauce, Sherry, sugar, ginger and garlic. Marinate fish strips in the mixture for 30 mins. Thread on skewers and broil over a hibachi. Serves 6.

Marinated Halibut—Greek Style

Ingredients:

2 lbs. halibut steaks
flour seasoned with salt & pepper
1/3 cup olive oil
3 cloves garlic, minced
1/2 tsp. dried rosemary
1/2 cup white wine vinegar

Dip fish into seasoned flour, coating well. Fry fish on both sides in hot oil. Remove fish to a heated platter. Drain oil from pan and reserve. Add garlic, rosemary and vinegar. Bring to a boil and let simmer for a few minutes, pour over fish. Serve fish hot, or cool and serve chilled. Serves 8.

Japanese Egg Roll

Ingredients:

5 oz. halibut fillet, shredded
1/4 tsp. salt
4 tbsps. sugar
6 eggs, beaten
5 tbsps. dashi
3 tbsps. soy sauce
2 tbsps. mirin or sherry
1/2 tsp. sesame oil
2 inch piece of daikon (radish) or turnip, grated

Add salt to fish and pound well. Add sugar and mash well. Add eggs, dashi, a 2 tbsps. soy sauce and mirin; stir well. Divide into 6 portions and fry in oil. Immediately upon taking from skillet, place on a bamboo mat (or napkin) and roll. Let stand to set, then cut into half-inch lengths. Serve with grated radish mixed with 1 tbsp. soy sauce as a dip. Serves 6.

Peruvian Ceviche

Ingredients:

1 lb. haddock fillet, skinned
3 long, hot green chile peppers
3 long, hot red chile peppers or
1 tsp. dried hot red pepper flakes
1 medium size onion
1 cup Key or Mexican lime juice
1 tsp. salt
fresh coriander (Chinese parsley)

Slice haddock into thin strips. Seed the whole peppers and cut into thin strips. Cut onion into wafer-thin slices. Combine all but coriander well and chill overnight. Sprinkle with coriander before serving. Serves 4 to 6.

*****

SOUPS

Oriental Shark Fin Soup

Ingredients:

3/4 lb. dried shark's fins
1/2 lb. canned or cooked crab meat, flaked
1 tbsp. cooking oil
2 tbsps. sliced ginger root
1/4 cup sliced scallions
1 tbsp. dry sherry
3 qts. stock
2 tbsps. cornstarch
1/4 cup water
1 tsp. soy sauce
1/2 tsp. MSG

Wash the fins, cover with cold water, and drain. Recover with cold water, bring to a boil, and boil for 3 hours. Drain; cover again with fresh water, and boil for another 3 hours. Drain, pat dry, and dice. Heat the oil and in it saute the ginger root and scallions for 3 minutes. Add the sherry, 1 quart of the stock and the diced fins. Add 2 qts. stock and bring to a boil. Mix together into a paste, the cornstarch, water, soy sauce and MSG. Stir into the soup with the crab meat and heat to thicken somewhat. Serves 8-10.

French Fish Soup

Ingredients:

2½ lbs. halibut, in 1½ inch cubes
2 qts. water
fish bones and trimmings
3 cloves garlic
1 whole onion
1 parsley sprig
1 tbsp. salt
1/2 cup olive oil
1 cup minced onion
1½ cup stewed tomatoes
1 to 2 tbsps. lemon juice
salt and pepper
1/4 cup minced parsley
4 slices French bread, toasted

Make stock of water, bones and trimmings, 1 garlic clove, the whole onion, parsley sprig and salt. Bring to boil and simmer for 30 to 40 mins. Reduce stock over high heat for 5 mins. Strain, measure, and reserve 6 cups stock. Saute fish in olive oil until delicately colored on all sides. Add

minced onion, remaining garlic, chopped and stewed tomatoes. Add lemon juice and season with salt and pepper to taste. Add reserved stock and simmer for 10 to 12 minutes. Correct seasonings and add minced parsley. Put a slice of toast in bottom of a soup bowl; add soup. Serves 4.

Greek Halibut Soup

Ingredients:
1½ lb. piece of halibut
1½ qts. salted water
12 small new potatoes
12 small white onions
2 green onions, minced
1 celery rib, sliced
1/3 cup olive oil
1/4 cup lemon juice
salt and pepper
2 tbsps. minced parsley

Simmer halibut in salted water for 20 to 30 mins., until tender. Drain, reserving the liquid and skin and bone the fish; keep fish warm. Strain fish cooking liquid, bring to a boil, and add potatoes, white and green onions and celery. Cover and simmer for 20 mins., or until vegetables are tender. Mix together the oil, lemon juice, and salt and pepper to taste. Pour half of this over the fish and stir remainder into the soup. Sprinkle parsley on the fish and serve the fish as a side dish to the soup. Serves 4 to 6.

Italian Haddock Soup

Ingredients:
2 lbs. haddock, cut into 1½" cubes
2 cloves garlic, crushed
1/4 cup olive oil
3 cups water
1 tbsp. chopped fennel tops
1 tbsp. chopped parsley
1/2 tsp. dried oregano
pinch of Italian red pepper

Saute garlic in oil for 1 min. Add remaining ingredients. Simmer until fish is tender. Adjust salt to taste. Serves 4 or 5.

New England Cod Chowder

Ingredients:
1 (4 lb.) cod, skinned & bones
fish bones and trimmings
2 cups cold water
1 bay leaf
6 parsley sprigs
4 celery ribs
1½ oz. salt pork, diced
3 onion slices
4 cups milk, scalded
salt and pepper
4 tbsps. cold butter, cut into pieces
6 pilot crackers, moistened with
a little cold milk

Cut fish into two inch pieces. Put fish trimmings into the cold water with bay leaf, parsley and celery. Bring to a boil and simmer for 25 mins. Strain stock into soup kettle. Render the diced salt pork with the onion slices. Strain the fat into the kettle. Add fish to kettle and cook over low heat for 5 mins. Stir in the scalded milk and simmer for 15 mins. Season to taste and stir in the butter pieces. Put a cracker in the bottom of each soup bowl, pour on the chowder. Serves 6.

New England Baked Fish Chowder

Put alternate layers of cod slices, sliced onions, and sliced potatoes in a deep baking dish, dotting each layer with butter and seasoning with salt and pepper. Cover with milk 1 inch over top layer. Bake covered at 350° for 1 hour.

It should be noted that you may substitute one winter fish for another in any of the aforementioned recipes.

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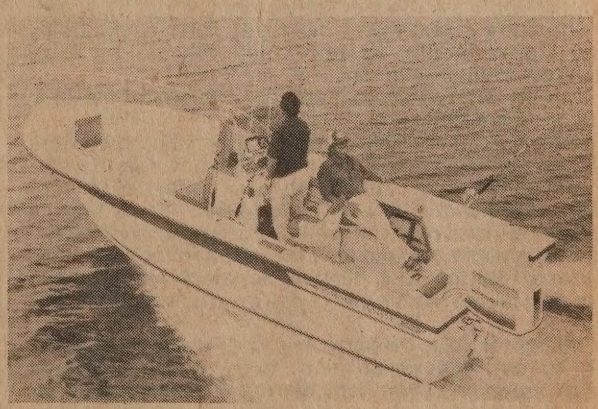

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No one need remind us that winter codfishing in the New York Bight is a far cry from the way it was. There's no question codfishing has undergone a decline from the days of plenty—due chiefly to the willing cooperation of those detente-happy foreign fishing fleets—but no one (not even the conscience-less foreign rapist) is about to fish the ocean dry. There will always be cod for the persevering fisherman. There will still be

105 COD

occasional outstanding catches made this winter by fishermen aboard party boats, and there will still be fair to excellent codfishing for the private boat fisherman who knows his stuff. Of that I'm sure.

But all this is neither here nor there. What we're interested in right now is the way it was for the codfishing old-timer of, say a half-century ago. The overall fishing was good—there's no doubt of that; there is no need to gild the lily. I can remember no fisherman being disappointed once the basics were learned, yet there were many days when codfishing left much to be desired. Should anyone tell you differently, should anyone tell you every day was a bonanza, reach for that proverbial grain of salt—it just wasn't so.

The average "good" day produced ten or twelve cod per fisherman; the not-so-good day brought anywhere from one to four. But then to compensate for our poor days, there were those which produced super-duper fishing. These are the ones beginning codfishermen hear much about. Those exceptional days were good for twenty or more cod per fisherman. Certainly, this was the frosting on the cake.

But beyond these singular codfishing days were those which were truly outstanding. Had they not been written in my record books at the time of occurrence, it would have mattered not. I could never forget them. True, they were few in number—possibly no more than three could justify being placed in this category—but they do serve as reminders of the way it was.

It is the most outstanding of these three that I wish to relate in this article.

Ever hear of one fisherman catching 105 cod on hook and line? All in one day? I saw it happen. I was there.

But before we get into exactly what happened, and for better understanding of what is to follow, let me first go over the way we use to codfish in those days. Incidentally, about two years ago I included this 105-cod incident in an Old-Timer column. But because of space limitations, I could only hit the highlights. I hope to do a little better this time.

When I first began party boat codfishing (back about 1925 or so), we fished only two types of bottom: rock-cluttered and open. I do not recall wreck fishing for cod until many years later. There may have been wreck-fishing cod boats at the time, but if so, I was unaware of them. The only wreck fishing we did those days was during summer for sea bass and porgies, and during early fall for huge doormat fluke.

Because this is an article on codfishing, I want to avoid getting into a discussion on doormats, but I can't ignore the opportunity to tell you that the pool-winning fluke those days was rarely under ten pounds. Most were between eleven and twelve; occasionally one would reach fourteen or slightly better. The largest fluke I ever saw landed was just ounces under twenty pounds. Those were the days, all right.

But back to codfishing the way it was.

Much of our codfishing was done on the Cholera Bank, with occasional forays to the offshore Sea Bright grounds, or perhaps drifting around the old Ambrose Lightship. Exactly when to fish the latter two areas depended upon experimental reports of just how good the fishing was. Sea Bright usually produced well about the third week in November, and the month of December found cod on Ambrose. But the Cholera Bank was good from mid-November until real cold weather shut down the fishery—say about mid-January.

We didn't have the sophisticated tackle available today—and more's the pity. At the time, handlines were still common, but lancewood, greenheart, bathbara, and double-enamel split bamboo rods were appearing on the scene in rapid order. Many fishermen, and I was one, used converted hickory pool cues for codfishing. I would give a lot to have mine now—not for use, but just as a keepsake. Unfortunately, it went overboard one winter day in a bad storm, which is another story in itself.

Most reels in use were wooden sidewinders, although revolving spool types were not unknown by a long shot. Who made these metal reels I no longer remember—except for one. This was the vom Hofe, made by Edward vom Hofe & Company. It was the Rolls Royce of fishing reels—just plain beautiful in action and appearance. There are still a few around, but not in use that I know. I can say this, though: any vom Hofe in working condition today is worth its weight in gold as a collector's item.

We fishermen of the time filled our reels—both sidewinder and revolving type—with braided white Irish linen line. There was some green-dyed stuff available, but I saw little of it in use. Why this was so, I can't say. It certainly blended nicely with the water, making it practically invisible.

For light summer fishing we used six-thread line; and for codfishing we used nine-thread. Each strand tested out to three pounds when dry—and much more when wet. It was good, strong stuff—with only one problem: saltwater raised hob with it. Should a fisherman fail to wash and then dry it in the shade after each use, he found his linen line didn't last too long. Rust spots, too, were the kiss of death, which meant a fisherman had to be extra careful where and how he dried his line. I'm one fisherman who is thankful for today's monofilament and other synthetic lines.

Just one more quick observation and we'll get to those 105 cod.

During those long-gone days, as good as codfishing was, we never saw many truly large fish. The average cod that came over the rail was between eight and ten pounds. It was indeed rare to see a forty-pounder. Large fish were classified as those between twenty-five and thirty-five pounds—and most times there weren't too many of these. Maybe, just maybe, you'd see one a week.

There is no doubt in my mind that those forty and fifty pounders caught today were also available then in the New York Bight, but because cod are spooky, I believe the only reason we didn't catch those larger fish was due solely to that white linen line. When mono hit the fishing scene, large cod immediately made their presence known. I know there are more large cod caught today than in those long-gone times, and this can only be cause of that mono line.

Okay, with that out of the way, let's get to those 105 cod.

It was a damp, raw morning, that morning in late March, 1930. An east wind of forty-eight hours' duration had brought mist and gloom and showed no sign of abating, and of course, for those two days, not a soul showed up to go fishing. It was long past our scheduled leaving time as Dick Persson, skipper of the Rose R II, Matty Horlick, the engineer-mate, and I stood on the Canarsie wharf debating if we should do the only sensible thing and call it a day.

The skipper had no intention of going fishing, but he knew it would look better to be on hand in case someone did show. Dick felt disappointment would be softened if a fisherman found someone on hand with whom he could discuss the matter. A sort of misery loves company thing. I

guess you might say psychology wasn't unknown to the layman of those times. Dick felt this kept our passengers if not happy, at least not too sorrowful, for many were much in need of sympathy as they ranted and railed against those fishing gods who so impishly ruined their day.

Well, anyway, an hour or so past our usual leaving time of 7:15, we were ready to pack it in. But not quite. Out of the gloom appeared five fishermen, complete with rods, foul-weather gear, and tackle bags. When told we weren't sailing due to the weather, these five fishermen were indeed crestfallen.

"Please, Captain, take us out," they pleaded. "We've come all the way from Perth Amboy, New Jersey."

Today such a trip is no big deal, but those days few fishermen owned cars. These fellows had come to Canarsie via public transportation, which meant ferry, buses, subway, and trolley car. It must have been a gruelling trip and only the good Lord knows what time they had started out.

Dick explained that the sea would be rough and instead of catching fish, they were more likely to catch a good case of seasickness. But this dire prediction meant nothing to these fishermen. They were willing to risk it. Captain Dick was an extremely soft-hearted man, and because of this I wasn't surprised to see him weakening under the effects of some fairly eloquent pleading.

But what to do? I knew our bait supply was practically non-existent, consisting of a half-pail of smelly conch left over from a blackfishing trip we'd made several days before. And there was little chance of getting fresh bait. Our Roxsbury bait man would never expect party boat business this day, and the chances of coming across him in the bay were slim indeed.

But fresh bait or no fresh bait, Captain Dick made his decision. "Okay, boys, get aboard. We'll go as far as the inlet and take a look. We'll make up our minds from there."

So, we were off on a trip which I'll never forget. What rain there had been wasn't much to begin with; and it ceased altogether as we approached the inlet. We continued on. So far, so good. Even the wind showed signs of lessening as we entered the ocean and came abreast of the bell buoy. There was also a general brightening of the sky, which under the circumstances, and as long as the wind stayed in the east, could mean anything. We put no faith in it, but were thankful enough for the change. We decided to continue on.

Out beyond the bell buoy we found the seas not too bad, but it was no mill pond. "We'll go over to Ambrose Lightship," Dick told me. "We'll pick up a few ling and that will be it. It should be an easy day."

I told our five passengers what to expect and they were happy enough about it. "Beats going home," I remember one fellow saying.

But we didn't get a ling that day.

What we got were cod, and more cod. There was no end to the cod.

The wind continued to diminish as we ploughed through some pretty heavy seas and as we reached the Lightship, we decided it would be best to drift, for anchoring, we felt, would have made our passengers seasick in minutes.

Our bait was that leftover smelly conch which had been previously cut into small pieces for blackfishing. But that didn't matter, for ling would readily accept it. Once we got a few fish on deck, I planned on slicing several into fresh bait.

Before I could get organized to do a bit of fishing for myself, one cod after another began to come up. Reach bottom, wait a second, and immediately a cod would latch on. I gaffed each fish as it came up, but the situation quickly got out of hand. I couldn't keep up with it, nor could Matty Horlick.

"Break out the handlines and pass 'em around, Marty," Dick told me. "Tell 'em to put the rods aside. Gaff only the big fish; swing the rest in."

Which is what I did. However, I didn't use the gaff once after that. We swung every fish in unaided. Most of the cod averaged six and eight pounds, with an occasional

fish to twelve. There seemed to be no end to them. How large that school was, I don't know; but we must have been drifting at the same rate those cod were swimming under us. We never once drifted out of the action.

Dick, using four handlines, two on each side, baited up with that smelly conch and lowered them to the bottom. Fish stuck on immediately. There was no need to set the hook; they hooked themselves. All Dick Persson did was go from one side of the boat to the other, remove his fish, and re-bait. I set up a large barrel for his use alone and every one of his cod was placed in it. That's how I know his total catch was 105.

It was truly fantastic codfishing. One of those New Jersey fishermen had never fished saltwater before, yet he managed to catch thirty-nine or forty-nine cod. I no longer recall the exact number.

We returned about 3PM. The wind, in the meantime, had veered to northwest on the change of tide, and as we entered the bay, the sun popped out. On the wharf to greet us were dozens of spectators and an assortment of fishermen who had waited around to see what the only boat out had gotten. Pandemonium reigned. No one had ever seen that many cod at one time. We couldn't even walk the deck without first pushing cod aside. We gave many of the fish away and marketed the rest.

The Rose R II certainly made the newspaper fishing columns that day. But the story is not over yet.

Word of our record catch had quickly gotten around and the next day we had so many fishermen aboard, it looked like a Fourth of July fluke trip instead of a cod trip in late March.

We returned to Ambrose, but Dick knew our chances of repeating were slim indeed. He was right, too. One of the mates stood on the bow, made an experimental cast and immediately came up with a double-header. But that was it.

This time we did settle for ling.

So ends the tale of the greatest codfishing day I ever experienced. As noted before, our codfishing was usually pretty good, but to expect another day such as that would be a bit too much. However, as hope springs eternally in the fisherman's breast...one never knows.

Record catches, though, are not all that uncommon; so if you have experienced fantastic bottom fishing in the long ago, or heard of such, drop me a line at 39 King Street, Hampton Bays, New York 11946. We've got a contest going each month for the best old-time letter on fishing, the winner to receive a pretty nice Shakespeare spinning reel. Give it a try. Just put the word "contest" on the envelope. This will enable me to give it immediate attention.

FISHERMAN INTERVIEW:

The Altenkirch Family Celebrates an Anniversary

by Stu Miller

On a bluff overlooking Shinnecock Canal, stands a shop that's been there for the last 50 years: Altenkirch Bait and Tackle. Mickey Altenkirch is the boss man, with second-in-command, son Hank Altenkirch. Mickey's sister, Miriam, completes the trio that keeps the whole thing working. L.I.F. interviewed all three in the newly renovated shop a few months ago.

Q. Mickey, who started this shop?
A. My dad did, buying the property in 1929 and opening up in 1930, as a garage and repair shop. He was an ardent angler and he ran buses from New York City with thirty to forty buddies and they chartered boats and fished in Peconic Bay. For a long time, he liked and wanted to buy this location where the shop is. Finally, he went and bought the property. It was barren, just open land and trees. The original part of the shop went up in 1929.

Q. When did he start with the tackle?
A. It was a gradual thing. What with the garage and gas station, people who were fishing the canal came in looking for hooks, tackle and bait. The first year, Pop bought $28 worth of tackle. We sold flounder hooks, sinkers and droplines out of an old rebuilt radio console, which we still have. I was 11 or 12 at the time. We used to come out and fish for flounders in the canal. The place was sparsely settled. I don't think 1500 people lived in Hampton Bays then.

Q. Were there locks in the canal at that time?
A. The locks were there, but the canal bulkheading was all rotted out. In the 1930s, the town installed steel bulkheading that finally deteriorated also. Now, it's all new concrete bulkheading.

Q. How many people do you employ in the shop?
A. Seven, including myself; full and part time help.

Q. What were retail prices like back in the early days?
A. Worms were twenty-five to thirty cents a dozen while squid was a quarter a package. Shiners were kept fresh for a half day between alternating layers of ice and rock salt.

Q. What was a good rod and reel setup in those "good old days?"
A. In the Thirties, a Penn Squidder cost $25 retail. A good stick was $40 plus. By the way, that's the same Penn Squidder that's made today. All equipment sold "list" back then. Linen line was what people used and 100 yards cost about $2.

Q. Was a customer's selection more limited in those days?
A. Not really; there was a lot to pick from. At the time, you didn't have any of the spinning gear that you have today. Fiberglas rods didn't get into use till after World War II. We built the first glass rods on Long Island as far as I know. We made them in 1945 out of surplus tank antennas. The first glass surf stick we built was on a 7½ ft. blank; it would bend without breaking, it looked good and it felt good. It was a good idea and it sure worked out great.

Q. What kind of guides did you use then?
A. Stainless steel on boat rods and agate on surf rods. Agate was used on the better surf rods. Today, we use ceramics and carboloy. Carboloy won't cut at all. Agate will groove. This was the late thirties...late forties.

Q. What kind of fishing did you have then in Peconic Bay?
A. Weakfish, and that was all chumming with grass shrimp and grass shrimp on the hook. Fishermen used ten to twenty-five quarts a boat per tide. I used to truck 1000 quarts of grass shrimp between 4AM - 8AM. They had to be here before the Long Island Rail Road Fishermen's Special arrived with up to 800 wild-eyed fishermen aboard. We had four men baiting (catching) shrimp for us. Shinnecock Bay was all full of eel grass and would foul up a boat's prop.

Q. Were there any "environmental" issues of the day in the area?
A. No. You could do what you wanted and go where you wanted.

Q. Have you a theory on the weakfish

drought that hit in the mid-Thirties?
A. The New York State and the Delaware Fish and Wildlife Service determined that balloon netters that sailed out of Chesapeake Bay from 1936-1940, went out in the ocean where the weakfish wintered, and caught millions and millions of tiny 8-10 inch long weaks and this is what caused the big decline in the population that hit four to five years after that.

Q. What's a balloon net?
A. A net that looks like a balloon when it's dragged through the water. This year we've had a load of small weaks three to five pounds, which is a good sign for solid weakfishing coming up.

Q. Has this store always had an Altenkirch behind the counter?
A. Yes, and I hope there always will be. Pop (Charlie Altenkirch) really started something when he put this place up! He used to build his own very light weakfish rods, all bamboo. We'd call them "ultra-light" today. At the time, fencing foils were used for light tackle angling, but they would rust out very easily. We would silk-wrap the entire foil rod, after we'd chromed it. The silk-wrap was 96 thread per inch, all done on the lathe, for the entire length of the rod.

Q. Would that keep the rust off?
A. Yes, once you laquered and varnished it. But if you got a nick or cut, the water got in and it would rust out.

Q. When did you start building your custom sticks?
A. In 1933, when Pop started with bay and surf rods. In 1938, he began on trolling rods. All rods were either single built, double built, or triple built bamboo (single, double or triple layers of bamboo). The hard outer shell of the bamboo was used. It was cut and pre-fitted and glued over the preceding layer. The more layers, the stiffer and stronger the rod.

Q. Which were the most popular reels "way back when?"
A. VonHoffs, Hardys, Pflueger.

Q. Does your shop claim any "specialties?"
A. Custom rods, mainly. Also rod hangers that we custom build for boats. We manufacture all our own reel seats for our custom rods, in 5 different sizes. We make them from stock, in our own machine shop.

Q. Do you cater to any ONE type of fisherman?
A. No. We build rods and carry equipment from ultra-lite to unlimited.

Q. Hank told me you'll soon have your own reel on the market.
A. Yes, we have a few ideas that should revolutionize the fishing reel industry. Conventional reels have remained basically the same since 1945. We will probably have one built along conventional reel lines that will be "something else," but I can't elaborate on it at this time.

Q. I see that a lot of re-modeling has just been done to the store.
A. Yep! Things were getting too cluttered, so we "opened it up" and it looks like there's twice as much room now. We tore down walls, put new ones up and joined the "Pegboard generation." In fact, we changed the appearance in and out so much, that a fellow comes in the other morning and says to me, "You the new owner?"

Q. What other info can you lay on us about your rod building?
A. Well, as I said, my father started it rolling. I did the wrapping. We started custom building because you couldn't get anything decent then. Seats were sloppy, wraps poor, etc. I've designed and built and still build all my own reel seats. We have the complete machine shop in here and that's where all the reel seats are made, start to finish. There's $40 to $50 in labor in a typical reel seat alone. We build around 200 reel seats a year. I use only Lamiglas, Fenwick and Shakespeare blanks. They're all top quality. The Shakespeare Ugly Stik blank is practically indestructable. They can take a hell of a beating. Our guides are all mildrum and Fin-Nor. Fin-Nor for the big stuff; Mildrum for spinning and bay rods.

Q. What's your biggest headache?
A. Getting deliveries. You order and you never get everything you want. Order a dozen finigan pins and you get two or three or none. The jobbers don't have it on the shelf. Why? Because THEY can't get it from the manufacturers. Been like this for the last couple of years. Next comes customers who don't have patience. They'll leave tackle here over the winter for repairs or servicing and then come in for it, without notice, on a very busy Saturday morning. Or the guy who brings in a broken reel on Friday and wants it fixed for fishing with the next day.

Q. What well known figures of the past have been customers of yours?
A. David Niven, Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Frankie Fontaine and Joe DiMaggio are standouts.

Q. What's the worst thing that's happened here in the last 50 yrs.?
A. The Hurricane of '38. It caused the most destruction; but it gave us access to the ocean and it cleaned up the bay. It gave us Shinnecock Inlet, fluke and flounder in the bay and bass and blues in the inlet. It really was a blessing in disguise. And now there are also scallops and oysters in Shinnecock Bay.

Q. Will there be an Altenkirch Bait and Tackle Shop here 100 years from now?
A. I hope so.

Q. In the 50 years of the shop's existence, what are some of your fondest memories?
A. For me, catching my 499¼ lb. swordfish. And catching my first marlin off of Shinnecock Inlet on 18 lb. test linen line.

Q. What problems do the Peconic/ Shinnecock areas have today, if any?
A. The problem of ANY area is pollution. The ocean is becoming polluted. Look at how far the fish are working offshore these days. We used to get good fishing fifteen to sixteen miles off the beach and also at the Sea Buoy, just two miles off the beach. Now, you have to go eighty miles offshore if you want a sword. Overfishing of the baitfish that the game fish feed on doesn't help, either. But the steady pollution is the worst villain. The fish know what water they want to swim in. Oil spills, garbage, and sewage dumping—what can you expert?

Q. Do you have duck farms around this area?
A. Used to. No more. Those still around are on dry land. Found they didn't really need to be on the water.

Q. What's your age? Do you plan to retire?
A. Sixty-three. No, I plan to stay right here in the shop. What have I got better to do?

Q. What are the biggest changes in the business that you've seen?
A. The better developments in reels. Fiberglas made bamboo rods obsolete. Better terminal tackle, lures, etc. We used to make all our own tins and plugs years ago. Now look at the dozens of items each lure manufacturer has to offer the public, to say nothing of accessory and convenience items.

Q. What's your own favorite type of fishing?
A. Billfishing! I like to see 'em dance!

Q. Ever get into rum running during the Prohibition era?
A. No, I was too young, but I saw many that were involved and all kinds of trucks used to go by here loaded with booze.

Q. What was your father's involvement with the area like?
A. Pop loved this whole place. He started the Shinnecock Inlet Stabilization Committee, which came to include some of the local bigwigs and money men and local politicians. They got wire and cement, sand bags and spiles and put the whole thing together. Would you believe that the inlet hasn't moved ten feet since it was stabilized. Dad's committee went all the way to Albany, all for that inlet. A huge ten ton rock with a bronze plaque with his bust on it, dedicated to the work he did to achieve the stabilization of the inlet, was placed at the top of the hill near the inlet. But, then, some bastard stole the plaque. The day the first load of stones were delivered to the inlet, Pop fell dead of a heart attack. He'd had three earlier heart attacks and this was the one that ended it all. That was in 1952. But he lived to build a home and business in a part of the Island that was heaven to him.

Q. What more can a person ask of life. Thanks, Mickey.

Long Island Cod

by Gerald Hahn

Codfishing aboard Long Island party boats has developed a dedicated following of anglers over the years. Indeed, some of these old-timers fish exclusively for cod throughout the year. In their company, are usually some eager youngsters yearning to catch their first cod. Perhaps there is a romantic attraction to codfishing because of its important historical role in the development of the American fishing industry, which became famous not only for whaling, but for codfishing. No doubt, another factor is their desire to catch a "hanger"—a cod weighing between thirty and sixty pounds—about the largest fish one can bring to gaff on a Long Island party boat. Catch your first giant cod, and you will probably become hooked on codfishing—good or bad—forever.

Although I am not a die-hard codfisherman, I will go for cod several times a year. Like the old-timers and the youngsters, I love the heavy tackle that is used and the "no frills" fishing methods. I, too, yearn for the determined battle even a small cod gives when it is hooked.

Since cod are frequently taken in deep water and some may be very large, a stout seven or eight foot conventional rod is required. A reel comparable to the Penn Jigmaster, filled with forty pound test, should be considered as well. Unlike fishing for large blues in deep water, where you can enjoy playing with thirty pound test or even twenty pound test, it is foolish to go light when codfishing from a party boat. At Coxes Ledge, for example, the depth is around 120' and currents can be strong should a breeze kick up, you may need a sinker weighing close to a pound. Tie a sinker of this weight to twenty pound test, and the line will stretch like bubble gum—and pop like it, too. Moreoever, codfishing is primarily still-fishing on the bottom, even in shallower waters, and lighter lines will be of no advantage. In shallow waters, a slower reel like the Penn 60 works fine; but in deep waters, a fast reel enables you to retrieve line rapidly, and you should plan on reeling in frequently if you want to catch cod.

Most cod aboard open boats are caught with clams. Drop a clam a hundred feet to the bottom and part of it will disintegrate on the way down, while the remainder may be taken by bergalls, sea robins, toadfish, or dogfish. Therefore, a sensitive finger and an attentive eye on the thick rod tip are essential to knowing when to reel in. Baiting up properly is equally important. Reasoning that more is better, too many people carelessly pile great globs of clam on their hooks and unfortunately lose many fish. Better to watch an old-timer bait up. He uses half of a large clam or a whole small one. Beginning with the firm part, he impales it near the end and slides it just past the barb. Then, holding the impaled end in one hand, he twists the clam with the other hand and hooks it again. Working slowly with both hands this way, he packs the clam tightly as he impales it several times, until it covers the shank of the hook. When finished, he exposes the point a little and lets the soft, stringy part dangle below, like a teaser. Some experienced fishermen acquire a deadlier bait than clam, for nothing, by gutting their first cod and examining it for partially digested crabs or baitfish. Since this is what the cod are eating, it makes sense to put one of these baits on the hook immediately. It is also advisable to bring along a few diamond jigs (eight to twelve ounces) in case cod are chasing sand eels, or their more aggressive relatives, the pollack, show up.

Although 8/0 or 9/0 hooks are

A party boat angler prepares to add a nice cod to his bag.

commonly used on many party boats, I prefer sizes ranging from 4/0 to 6/0. They are better suited to smaller cod and I doubt that a 4/0 hook would straighten or fail to penetrate the great mouth of any outsized cod that happens along. Hook choices are flexible, varying from Sproats and regular or long shanked Beaks or Claws, to O'Shaughnessies, snelled on 18" leaders of 50 lb. test. The rig should be as simple as possible: a single hook connected to a dropper loop on the main line at least a snell's length above an end loop for a bank or diamond sinker between eight and fourteen ounces. Some people prefer a length of fifty pound test leader and a barrel swivel for the rig, especially if snags are likely to occur over a wreck or when drifting. The rig will then break at the swivel, and many feet of line will be saved (another reason why the reel should be filled to capacity). Sometimes, hi-lo rigs are used when other species, such as pollack, blackfish, or ling are mixed in with the cod. The bottom hook is connected, as before, and the top hook, on a second dropper, may extend to four feet above the first. Pollack usually hit the top hook, and the other fish, the bottom hook, without inhibiting the cod. One problem with hi-lo rigs, however, is their tendency to tangle on the main line when fishing in deep water. This occurs even with single hook rigs when the angler, in his excitement, lowers the rig too fast. With a light bait and a heavy sinker, the snelled hook(s) rides up and twists around the main line. No matter which rig you use, ease it down slowly to the ocean floor.

Codfishing methods vary according to the terrain, although in all cases the bait should be held still on the bottom. Jigging may attract some species, but not cod. At Coxes Ledge, the fishing may be from a drifting or an anchored boat. Most experienced codfishermen prefer the stern or the bow, the sides being the least desirable. When drifting, or when lines go under the boat, casting is necessary. After the cast is made and the rig settles to the bottom, slack line is taken in, and the bait is dragged along the bottom, somewhat like flounder fishing, as slowly as possible. When fishing from an anchored boat, the bait is simply lowered to the bottom and held still. Wreck fishing is also performed from an anchored boat and the same method applies, though working the side of the boat facing the wreck may be better here than fishing from the stern or bow.

If you feel faint taps on the line, the fish will probably be a pest and not a cod. If nothing follows, reel in and check your bait. Raising the hook sometimes keeps the bait out of the scavengers' feeding zone. Sooner or later, however, the more substantial raps or the solid plunge of a cod will be felt. A short lift of the rod, after a momentary pause, ensures a solid hook-up. The rest will be an exciting, arm-tiring battle as you attempt to haul a cod that is determined to go the other way. Small cod may be hoisted aboard on the rod itself, but any fish over fifteen pounds should be gaffed. Large cod can take line against the drag of your reel; moreover, like large bluefish, they frequently move to the side—so be prepared to move with your fish and avoid a tangle.

Many times, relatives of the cod are taken as well—pollack, silver hake, haddock, and ling (red hake). Although a little confusing, these species may be distinguished from the cod (and one another) by looking for the following: the pollack does not have a chin barbel; the silver hake has two dorsal fins instead of three, as well as a distinctly whiter color than the red/brown or green/brown cod; the haddock has a dark lateral line instead of a light one; the ling is a small fish, generally no more than a couple of pounds, and has two long sensory organs, emanating from its jaws, like the whiskers of a catfish. Of all these species, the most exciting to catch are the pollack. Known as "Boston Blues," they are attracted by a diamond jig worked in mid-level waters. All are soft-fleshed fish and should be put on ice or in a wet burlap sack, stored in the shade.

In all likelihood, the best codfishing will occur during the spring and fall runs, around May and late November. But codfish of all sizes may also be taken at any other time, winter and summer, depending on the schedules of various party boats. During the spring and fall runs, boats leave from Sheepshead Bay, Freeport, Captree, and Montauk. Winter codfishing is usually more erratic, depending on the weather and the availability of fish and fishermen. In the summer, codfishing is almost exclusively restricted to the Montauk area.

To be sure, the best way to catch codfish today is to reserve a place on one of those marathon excursions to Nantucket, if you can afford the time and the cost. But even if the action in our local waters does not provide the numbers and sizes that distant wrecks do, you still stand a good chance of stocking the freezer with a load of flaky cod steaks or fillets. And there is always a chance to catch a hanger... and perhaps to remember, as well, that saltwater fishing in the northeast may never have flowered without the cod.

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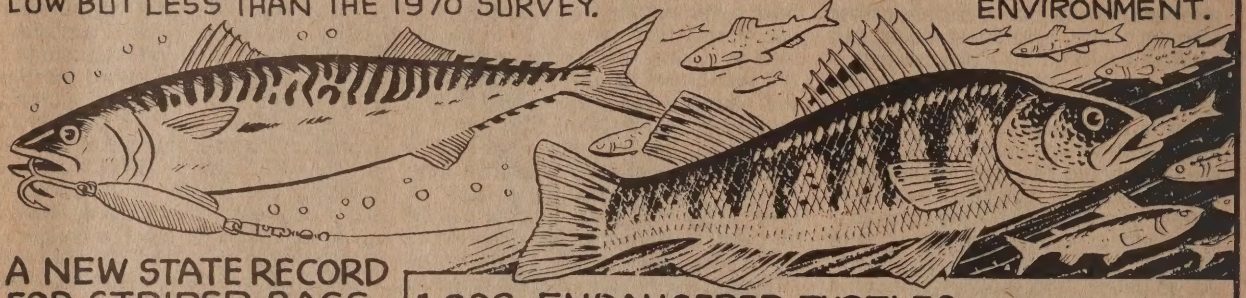
FISHING REPORTS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

THE MOST MACKEREL WERE CAUGHT BY N.Y. STATE ANGLERS. A RECENT SURVEY SHOWS - 2,849,713 BY L.I. PARTY BOATS, 1,695,587 MACKS IN L.I. SOUND BY L.I. PRIVATE BOATS. NEW JERSEY BOATS LANDED 2,136,057 MACKEREL WHILE DELAWARE TOOK 181,662. TOTAL CATCH OF 6,863,019 FISH IS MORE THAN 1976 LOW BUT LESS THAN THE 1970 SURVEY.

LAKE TROUT STOCKING IN NORTHEAST'N LAKES DIDN'T WORKOUT AS THE STOCKED FISH DISAPPEARED. *LOCAL FISH* STOPPED BITING AFTER A DISTRIBUTION AND IT WAS FOUND THAT NATIVE TROUT, RESIDENT YELLOW PERCH ETC. HAD FULL STOMACHS FROM FEASTING ON THE CONFUSED YOUNG LAKERS AS THEY ENTERED THEIR NEW ENVIRONMENT.



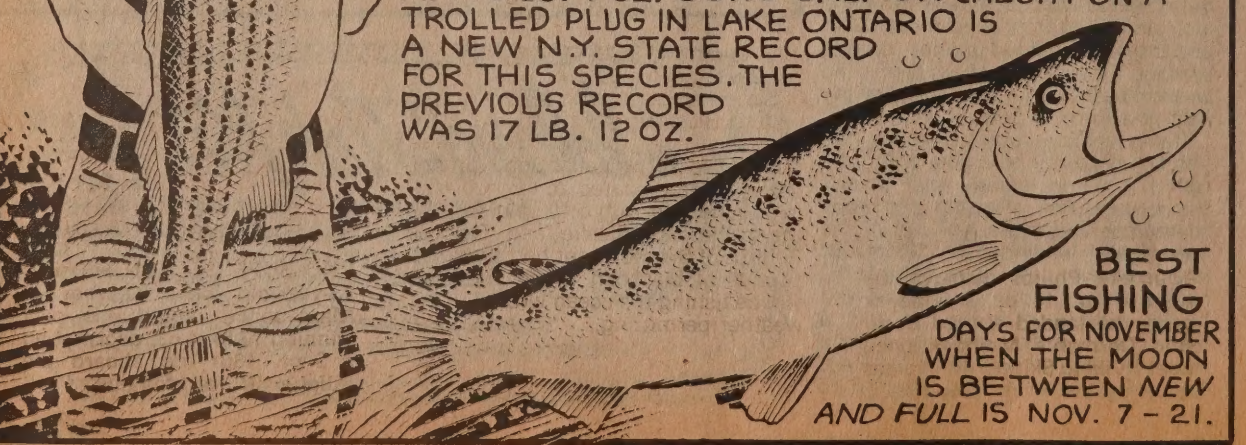
A NEW STATE RECORD FOR STRIPED BASS, BROKEN FIVE TIMES THIS SEASON IS NOW HELD BY A 19 LB. STRIPER TAKEN ON 17 LB. TEST LINE. THIS WAS IN LANDLOCKED FRESHWATER PENNSYLVANIA, WHICH DEMONSTRATES HOW THESE TRANSPLANTED SALTWATER FISH ARE THRIVING.

1,082 ENDANGERED TURTLES SUCH AS KEMP, RIDLEY, LOGGERHEAD AND FLORIDA GREENS WERE FOUND DEAD ON MID-AND SOUTH ATLANTIC BEACHES. MOST OF THE DEATHS ARE BELIEVED DUE TO ACCIDENTAL DROWNING IN SHRIMP NETS. CONSERVATIONISTS SAY SUCH DROWNINGS ARE REDUCED WHEN TRAWLS & NETS ARE TOWED FOR *ONLY ONE HOUR OR LESS.*

PENNSY STRIPER CHAMP "SPARKY" PRICE.

LOUISIANA ALLIGATORS HAVE LEARNED TO LIE IN WAIT BY DUCK HUNTERS' DECOYS. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WHEN DUCKS WERE DOWNED, THE WAITING 'GATORS SWAM OVER AND INHALED THE BIRDS.

AN 18 LB. 7 OZ. COHO SALMON CAUGHT ON A TROLLED PLUG IN LAKE ONTARIO IS A NEW N.Y. STATE RECORD FOR THIS SPECIES. THE PREVIOUS RECORD WAS 17 LB. 12 OZ.



BEST FISHING DAYS FOR NOVEMBER WHEN THE MOON IS BETWEEN *NEW* AND *FULL* IS NOV. 7 - 21.

MONTAUK

★ BEST BET ★

COD•STRIPERS

The **Viking Fleet** reports the cod fishing at Coxes Ledge is still holding up with some blackfish mixed in. The night bluefishing trips continue to do a job but if your planning on one of these trips, call first to find out the latest on the sailing schedule on gorrillagators.

Capt Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** tells us that any full day spent in the rips has produced striped bass. He says he hasn't missed yet. When the winds are down, catches improve. Blues and cod are also being diamond jigged.

Captain Phil Lewis of the **Adios** reports that a three-boat charter produced over 20 school bass per boat. Thursday's charter had 11 bass on the AM trip and ditto for the PM trip. The captain thinks Saturday and Sunday a new body of bigger fish moved in. Tim Lyons group had 8 bass, four of them over 30 lbs. Sunday seven were taken, including a nice 36 lber. for Dr. Zweibel. Lots of bait in water, which we hope will hold fish for awhile. Bluefishing is still good.

Theodore Philips displays the huge 4 lb. 14 oz. humpback porgy he landed aboard Capt. Bud Dorman's Montauk open boat "Viking Skipper II." It was taken on the Frisby Grounds.

Mel and John put away 7 bass, 14 weaks, and a few blues during a session of light tackle casting aboard John DeMaio's "Vivienne."

SOUTH FORK

★ BEST BET ★

FLOUNDER

SHINNECOCK

Thom at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** reported flounder being taken in the canal as well as on the east side of Shinnecock Bay off of the Indian Reservation. One customer fished the latter location on Friday and loaded up with 80 nice flatties using worms. Thom called the flatfishing in Shinnecock Bay decent with Towd Point, Rose's Grove and Noyac Bay all producing fish.

The **Capt Clark II** reports fishing was slow during the early part of last week as a result of the big storm. On Thursday and Friday blackfishing improved on the Peconic Bay wrecks with fish between 3 to 6 lbs. being taken. Saturday slowed down again due to strong westerly winds. On Sunday, they fished one ocean wreck off Southampton with FANTASTIC results. Blackfish from 4 to 8 lbs. were caught all day long with all fares filling at least two pails. Bob Kurtz of Valley Stream boated 25 large blacks taking the pool with a 10 pounder. On the same day, Leslie and Delores Phillips of Syosset went home with 20 pounds of blackfish fillet. The boat will be fishing the ocean wrecks daily, weather permitting.

MORICHES BAY

From **Skidmore's Fishing Station**, Jim said the flounder fishing has been improving steadily since Wednesday, with many boats returning with 40 to 50 fish apiece. Size has improved also with most of the flatties running from 3/4 to 1½ lbs. On Saturday, Jim weighed five fish over 2 lbs. Both worms and red-dyed clams have been taking the flatties, with incoming tide producing the best fishing. Buoy 39, the Coast Guard Station and the Elbow have been the hotspots. On Friday, Tony Tropicana and Joe Bauman fished the Coast Guard Station to take 74 flatties up to 2¼ lbs.

Al Lassen reported from his **Hi-Way Fishing Station** that they have been enjoying a good run of flounder in the Bay close by to the station. Worms have been working best and a lot of the fish are now in the 1 to 1½ lb. range. One of their tows over the weekend fished the buoy 36 area and returned with 25 flatties, including fish of 3¼ and 2¼ lbs.

L&M Marine reports that whenever the wind permits, anglers do well with good sized flatties. Patrick McErlean and his wife, of Centereach had a fine catch of flounder in the 1 to 2 lb. range fishing in Harts Cove on Sunday. Many boats returned to the station with good scores, although some had their fishing cut short by the windy weather. Worms and dyed clams have been working best on the flatties.

"NO SUPERSTITION HERE": 13-year-old Steve Kearney of Massapequa caught this pool winning 13 lb. 4 oz. doormat on a Sept. 13th trip aboard the "Jigger III" at Montauk.

MONTAUK POINT — OPEN BOATS & CHARTER BOATS

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★7P.M. EVERY NITE★
LIVE EELS SUPPLIED

JUMBO BLOCK ISLAND PORGIES NOW!
ON THE GIANT 105'
VIKING STAR
SAILS AT 5AM DAILY
NOW'S THE TIME TO FISH MONTAUK'S
★3 GIANT SUPERCRUISERS
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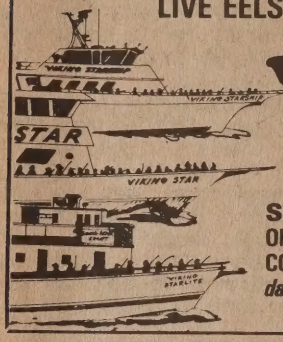

VIKING FLEET
COX'S LEDGE & OUTER BANKS COD 4:30 A.M. DAILY
NITE GORILLA BLUES—7P.M. EVERY NITE

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STRIPERS & BLUES
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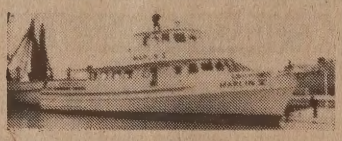

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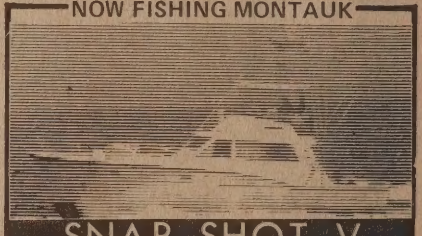

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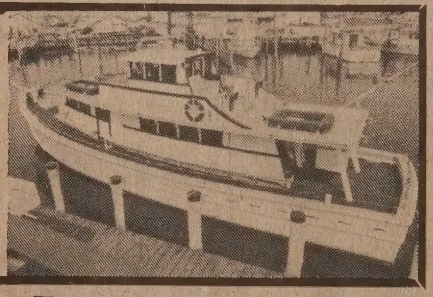

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FORMERLY OF THE "SEA DOLL",
ABOARD THE
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FAST, FULLY EQUIPPED TWIN DIESEL SPORTFISHERMAN
BASS-BLUE-DIAMOND JIGGING
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★ CALL FOR OUR LOW RATES ★
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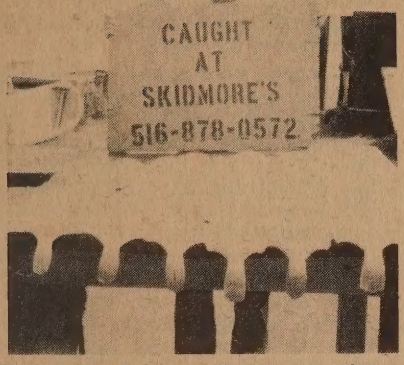

Hank Schlanger of Mastic Beach with 53 flounder taken on bloodworms near buoy 44 in Moriches Bay. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

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OAKDALE

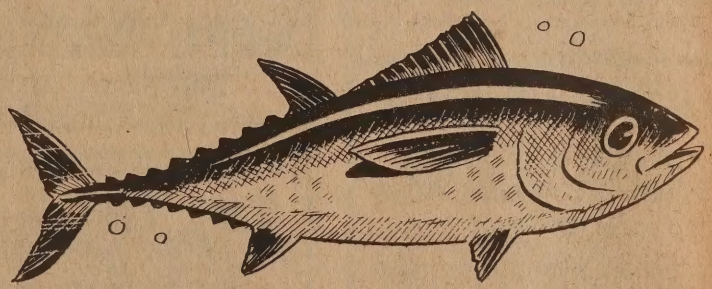
Dave at **J&R Sports Center** said that flounder fishing in the area has been generally poor. A few blackfish still remain in the bay and are being taken on green crabs near the Coast Guard station. Still very good blackfishing on the Fire Island ocean reef. For freshwater fans, Dave said that he and Al Cross fished Bubbles Falls Sunday and in two hours time landed a pair of 15'' rainbows and one 10'' brown trout on worms.

BAY SHORE

The **Casey Lee** reports fair flounder fishing over the week. Anywhere from 6 to 12 fish per man, with the state channel being most productive. The boat will be sailing November 11th, Veterans Day and this will be the last sailing for the season.

CAPTREE

Capt Georg Tweedy of the **Capt Scotty** says that every time he sailed this week, he had good bluefish catches to the tune of 10 to 30 slammers a man. Sunday saw Joe Kane boat 20 jumbo blues from 12 to 18 lbs. 2 ozs. All big fish, says the skipper. Catches are being made on diamond jigs and the boat has mainly been working the Oregon.



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CAPT. CLARK II ★ 8 A.M. DAILY
SHINNECOCK CANAL,
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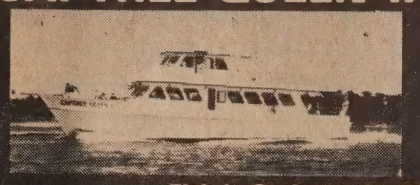
★CAPTREE★

CAPTREE QUEEN II



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★ 7A.M. DAILY ★
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Snack Bar • Clean Rest Rooms
—Sails from right side of Dock—
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FLOUNDERS • 8A.M. DAILY
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FREE CLAM BAIT & RODS *Sails from Right Side Of Dock*

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BAY OR OCEAN
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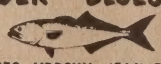
FAST 65' CHARTERBOAT
★ *NOW BOOKING* ★
FLOUNDER • BLUES • COD



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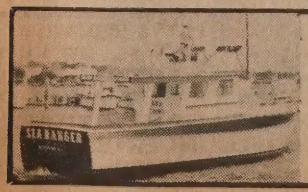


NITE—DAY FISHFINDER & LORAN OCEAN—BAY
SEA RANGER
WRECK FISHING
SEABASS•BLACKS•COD
CAPT JOHN (516) 586-7094

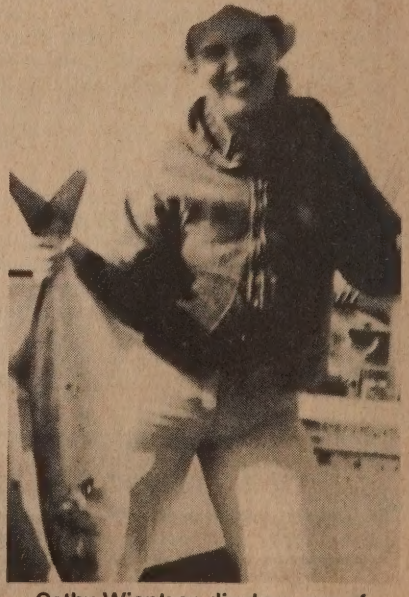
Capt Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen II** asked us to let you know that the boat is now sailing for flounders on a daily basis, leaving the dock at 7 a.m.

Capt Neil of the charterboat **Lady Ann** tells of good blackfishing on the ocean reef, with catches averaging 5 to 20 blacks per man.

The open boat **Speedy VI** reported they had been doing a pretty good job on the big bluefish fishing the offshore wrecks. Diamond jigs have been accounting for blues up to 18 lbs. Fishing during the latter part of last week was good, Saturday action was described as fair while Sunday's fishing took a turn for the worst.

Captain Charlie Kennedy of the **Capt. Bob Joseph** has been doing a big job on the blackfish, fishing the Fire Island ocean reef. Most of the tautogs are in the 1-3 lb. class, although some 4-7 lbers. are taken each day. The fares have been using green crabs as well as clam bait and a few sea bass are still mixed with the blacks. Dogfish began showing up in catches this past week, which usually signals the arrival of cod in the area. The skipper asked us to remind customers that beginning this Saturday (11-8) he will sail daily for cod at 6AM.

Bobby at the **Captree Bait Station** passed along an encouraging word on the local flounder fishing. There was a good flurry of flatties late last week from the Captree overlook pier, with some anglers taking up to 10 nice flounder apiece on worms. Bobby reported the open boats had been doing well with the big blues during the week. It appeared that the fishing slowed somewhat over the weekend, although the **Captain Scotty** found a



Cathy Wientzen displays one of the seven big blues she landed on the "Patchogue Grounds." She fished aboard the Captree open boat, "Speedy VI."

★CAPTREE★

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THE FAMILY PORT ON THE GREAT SOUTH BAY

★ ALL BIG, CLEAN, COMFORTABLE BOATS ★

FINEST SERVICE AVAILABLE

16 OPEN BOATS

FLOUNDER & BLACKS IN THE BAY

SR. CITIZENS & CHILD. RATES DAILY
FAMILIES & BEGINNERS WELCOME

16 CHARTER BOATS

COD • FLOUNDER

BAY & OCEAN FISHING
CALL NOW FOR SPECIAL FALL CHARTER RATES!

BAIT • TACKLE SHOP
RESTAURANT
"COME ON DOWN!
You'll have a great day!

DIRECTIONS: Take Southern State Pkwy. to Exit 40 Robert Moses Causeway, South five miles to the Captree Boat Basin Exit.

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SAILING 6A.M. DAILY
LEFT SIDE OF DOCK
LEFT TURN AFTER ENTERING PARKING LOT
2 RADIOS • SONAR • LORAN
TACKLE & BAIT ON BOARD
CAPT. CHARLIE KENNEDY—
17 YEARS EXPERIENCE FISHING F.I. WRECKS

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Capt. JOSEPH II

7 A.M. DAILY

BLACKFISH
SEA BASS
CODFISH
November 8 - 6 A.M.

Capt. Joseph II - 7 A.M. Dly.
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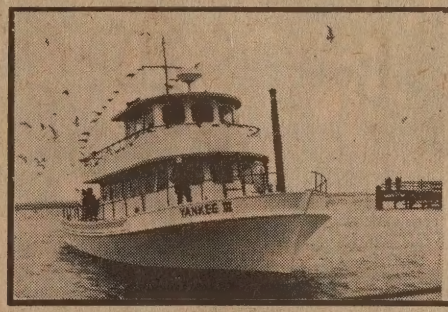

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The American Sportfishing Federation is now being formed. With your help it will become *the* organization to protect your fishing rights. The Federation has the legislative experts, lawyers, biologists, environmentalists and public information people who can effectively help you do this vital job.

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With your membership, you receive a cash coupon rebate booklet filled with coupons that are worth hundreds of dollars on brand name fishing equipment.

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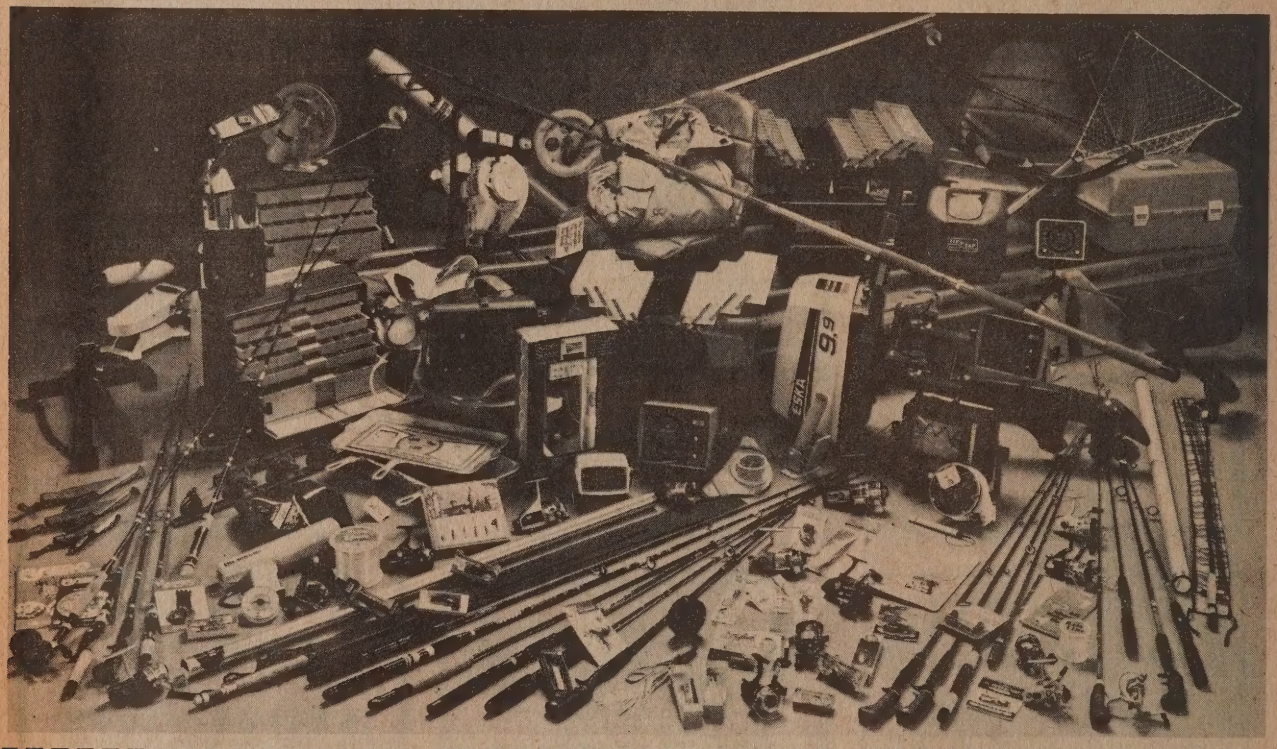

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Joseph Polimeni shows one of the many weaks he took back in September off the mouth of Brown's River in Sayville. All of the action was on Salty Dogs and squid strips. Subscriber photo.

body of big fish on Sunday and did a job. The boats have been working offshore wrecks with diamond jigs and some of the choppers have gone to 20 lbs. The Fire Island ocean reef continues to produce excellent black-fishing, while the bay fishing has petered out.

BABYLON

Ralph reported from **Augie's Bait and Tackle** that boatmen did a job on big blues from 35' on out to the whistle buoy on Sunday. Fish were taken on jigs as well as on umbrella rigs, with many in the 15-16 lb. class. Some flounder being taken in the pocket at the Sore Thumb and also off the Babylon pool on worms.

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FLOUNDER

SEAFORD

Lon reported from **Wanser's Tackle Shop** that flounder fishing was good on Friday and Saturday although it appeared the action slowed on Sunday. Best fishing has been at Four Corners, the 2nd and 3rd Wantagh bridge, Haunts Creek, Wansers Cut and at Gilgo. Best bait has been worms and chumming makes a big difference. Young Charles Kunzmann checked in a catch of 7 flounder up to 2¾ lbs. which he made at the 3rd Wantagh bridge.

Pop's Fishing Station relayed word of good flounder fishing in the area. John noted that there has been a definite improvement in the size of the flatties, with a number of 2 lb. fish now making an appearance. Most boatmen have been using worms along with mussel and corn chum. Joe Esposito fished bulkhead drain to take 18 flounder from 3/4 to 2½ lbs. on the weekend. Good blackfishing continues at the 3rd Wantagh bridge and blue claw crabs are still being taken in the bay. John asked us to remind his customers that the station will remain open through Thanksgiving weekend.

Capt Eddie's Fishing Station tells us that Chuck Kraus, Ron Finnigan (Inventor of the Finnigan pin) and Ernie Thompson on Sunday accounted for 71 flounders from 1 to 1½ lbs. along with a 2 pounder. The trio worked Great Island Channel with chum, worms and clam. On the same day Rich Madison along with his brother and wife boated 50 flatties at Squaw Island. Both moving tides produced. Fishing had been zilch up to Thursday due to the weather but either the water temperature or the tide conditions caused a jump in the flounder catches.

Young Brett Kiedaisch boated this nice 2 lb. 8 oz. porgy which took a bait meant for a fluke. Subscriber photo.

BELLMORE

The singing dog at **Merrick Tackle** lets us know that schoolie bass are being caught at Field 9 on Rebels and tin in the evenings and mornings hours. Some large blues are invading the west end surf, hitting big plugs. Flounders have been so-so in Merrick Bay and are improving in size. A hot spot has been the S turn

BALDWIN

Arthur Street Fishing Station tells of flounder caught this past week, mainly Sunday in Scow Creek and in the channel between Middle Bay and Parsonage Island on blood worms and clam. Chumming is a big assist. Some fish went up to 2 lbs. Blues in the 12 lb. range are still being trolled at Cholera.

WEST END SOUTH SHORE

★ BEST BET ★

FLOUNDER

FREEPORT

The **Capt Lou Fleet** tells us that Tuesday in the rain and wind, 10 fares boated nearly 380 keeper flounders on the all day boat. Frank Marranello of Middle Village was high hook with 49 flatties. Frank returned Thursday and accounted for another 40 flounders. On Thursday Oceanside angelr I. Goldstein bagged up with 40 flatties. Generally it was a tough week with things being off due to the storm. Capt Mike says keepers are running from ½ to 2½ lbs. that he's fishing Reynolds Channel with worm and clam.

Capt Sy Karlin of the **Blue Fin Fleet** asked us to let you know that he will be running open boat cod trips by reservation only from Thanksgiving weekend on. See ad for phone number and shoot him a call if interested in salt water turkeys.

The **Starstream II** reports that the better part of the catch this week consisted of blackfish. Catches were good every day this week except Saturday, due to the high winds.

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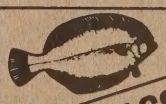

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Capt Al Lindroth of the **Capt Al** says that he was still getting bluefish this past week, but since the doggies are moving in, he is now switching to COW COUNTRY COD, sailing at 5 a.m. daily. Al says the draggers have been getting a few cod and the skindivers have seen some cod around the wrecks they've been diving on. Also, lobster and eel pots have been full of conger eels, all indications that the cod should be moving in.

Charterboat **Nan Sea** on Sunday worked Cholera, taking 18 blues between 10 and 15 lbs. for Tom LaRocca and party of Bensenhurst. Lots of doggies around, as the water temp is definitely dropping.

The **Capt Bill**, with 2 half-day trips daily says that the blackfishing has been off a little this week due to the stirred up bottom. Cold water infusion made flounder fishing slightly picky, but it was fair a good part of the time. On Sunday's morning trip Roosevelt Rogers had 20 flounders to walk away with high hook honors. The flatties are feeding very picky, Bill says their tapping like spring time berguals, so be ready. Catches are fair averaging 8 to 15 flounders a man on the half day trips. Mr. Rogers sailing on the Sunday afternoon trip also and bagged another 16 flatties in the ¾ to 1½ lb. range. All fishing has been in the back bays on worm and clam.

We boo-booed last week, reporting that the **Capt Gary** was sailing 8 a.m. daily. The vessel is strictly a charterboat and sails no such thing as a daily 8 a.m. schedule. The boat does occasionally have open reservation trips. You can call the captain for those dates.

The **Capt Gary** reports that Saturday's charter for the Greenwald Anglers of Queens had poor results due to the screaming winds that prevailed. On Sunday the boat ran as open boat and the skipper reports a good day's catch of flounder. Eight year old Sabastian Taravella of Island Park got 17 flounders. Herb Vail managed 35 flatties and high hook honors for the day. Jack Valentine took the pool with a 2 pounder. Gary says he will be running open boat this Sunday. He also asked us to let you know that he has some choice charter dates open in November.

POINT LOOKOUT

Capt Dennis of the charterboat **Marie III** called to say that Sunday's trip for Phil Delaney and group had fair to good flounder fishing with flatties going up to 1¾ lbs. The pool fish was caught by Harold Messerschmitt. Best action was at Garrett lead all around the low. Worm and clam baits worked best and a lot of chumming was necessary. Dennis says he has some open cod fishing dates in December, and you can watch his ad for these upcoming reservation cod trips sailing the last month of 1980.

ISLAND PARK

Charlie Beckman reported from **Beckman's Tackle Shop in Lynbrook**

The Julian brothers put a big dent in the Jersey shore bluefish population when they jigged this load aboard Captain Ronnie Lepper's "Kim."

that flounder and blackfish continue to get most of the attention in the area. He described the flatfishing as so-so, with the best scores now being made in the back creeks such as Schaefer Creek and Garrett's Lead. Best bait has been worms with mussel chum making a significant difference in the catches. Blackfishing continues good at the local bridges on fiddlers and green crabs.

LONG BEACH

Bernie Haag, reporting from the **Long Beach Sports Marina** said that the flounder and blackfishing remains good in the area. He looked over a nice catch of flatties made from the Magnolia Street pier where an occasional kingfish is also mixed with the flatties. Bluefishing was good over the weekend just outside Jones Inlet where plenty of bunker were in evidence. Those who made the run to the Tin Can Grounds managed to jig and troll some bass, blues and weaks.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Al called to report from his **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** that Wally Wark used a live eel under the Atlantic Beach Bridge to take a 25 lb. striper. The Atlantic Beach Rod and Gun Club Striped Bass Tournament, held over the weekend resulted in many bass being taken, although none reached the 15 lb. minimum requirement. On Sunday, Artie Valenti journeyed down to Fire Island and loaded up with blues in the 10-14 lb. class. He reported bluefish on the surface all over the area.

JAMAICA BAY

Artie at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** said that flounder fishing has been improving although many are still on the small side. Worms working best for the flatties. A couple of blackfish still being taken from the local bridges, but Artie figures the days left for this action are numbered.

A close-up look at the 7 lb. 5 oz. fluke taken by Minnie Vernikoff on a September trip aboard the "Elsie K III."

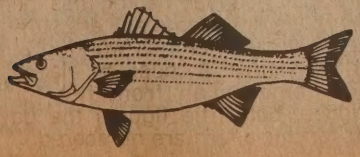
SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Captain Butch on the **Zephyr** reported excellent blackfishing over the weekend. On Saturday high hook boated 65 blackfish and on Sunday, a high of 60 fish were boated. Fishing the Seabright area with green crabs is producing plenty of fish up to 7 lbs. in 65' of water.

The new **Elsie K III** reported slow action on Friday and Saturday. But on Sunday, the action was hot and heavy. Big flounder from 1½ to 3 lbs. were taken at the Outer Banks about one mile southeast of Rockaway Inlet. High hook had 25 nice flounder taken on clam bait. Plenty of double-headers of two pound fish were taken aboard.

STATEN ISLAND

From **Santo's Sport Shop**, Lenny reported good flounder action at piers 8, 10, and 12 with the best fishing at pier 17. One pair of anglers fishing the latter spot showed Lenny a catch of 63 flounder ranging from 1/2 to 1½ lbs. on Sunday. Blackfish in the 1½ to 3 lb. range in good supply at the bug lights and old Orchard Light. An occasional larger fish is mixed in. Trollers have been working Romer Shoals for bass and blues with Bunker spoons, while worm drifters take a few bass near the 21 can and Hoffman and Swinburne Islands.



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BLACKFISH

GREENPORT

Capt George Porter of the **Brand X** happily called to say that his fares have been cathcing catching plenty of blackfish, even in the strong winds which we've been experiencing. Saturday's pool fish ran 9 lbs. 8 oz. and Sunday fish went up to 9 lbs. 3 oz. All this despite the fact that Saturday's winds ran from 40 to 50 knots. On Saturday over 100 big blackfish were caught and over 300 hit the deck on Sunday. Fish are averaging 4 to 5 lbs. and best action has been off Plum and Gull Islands on fiddlers and green crab. On Saturday a 5 lb. cod was also caught. The skipper describes the blackfishing as strong.

Capt Dave Brennan of the **Peconic Star** sailed on Sunday and fishing the areas of Gull Island and Plum Island, had his fares load up on 4 to 5 lb. blackfish with a few running larger. Both skippers except the blackfishing to continue and improving trend.

Capt John Raines of the charterboat **Blue Albatross** wishes to thank all of his patrons that sailing with him this year on the **Blue Albatross**, making his first year such a success. John particularly wanted to thank Blue Bird Anglers, Farmingdale Fishing Club, Jackson Hgts. Anglers, Weatherbee's Fishing Club and Joe Jernick and friends.

A.P. White Bait Shop reports that all of the Greenport boats got out this week and weekend despite the wind and enjoyed solid blackfishing at Gull and Plum Islands. Flounder activity has been good at Petty's Bight around Orient and also off Gardiners.

NORTH SHORE

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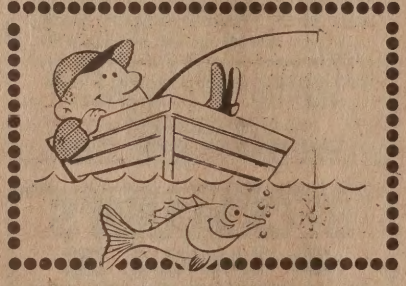

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SAG HARBOR

Capt Artie Lach of the **Wilhelric II** says that on Wednesday Bethpage angler Pete Kilanowski was high hook with 27 blackfish. Thursday saw Sig Anderson of Westbury grab high hook honors with 24 blackfish including an 11 lb. 5 oz. bruiser. Friday and Saturday were slower due to the high winds. Sunday bounced back with Tom and Pete (No last name furnished) bagging up with 45 blacks including a 9 lb. 8 oz. pool winner. Artie says the flood tide has been best with green crabs the preferred bait. Super blackfishing is the way Artie described it, and improving daily. The Plum Island area has been hottest.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

★ BEST BET ★

BLACKFISH

ROCKY POINT

From his **Rocky Point Fishing Stop**, Stan said that wind has kept most boatmen off the Sound. When they can get out, there are still plenty of blues in mid-Sound on jigs and trolled umbrella rigs and blacks are still being taken near the Shoreham outflow.

SELDEN

Kenny at **Anglers Den** says if you can get out, the Shoreham pipeline is red hot with blackfish from 3-10 lbs. on green crabs on the ebb. Lots of fish, says Kenny, with good fishermen getting anywhere from 150-200 lbs. Bluefish are scattered, but 10-12 lbers. are being jigged at Middle Grounds and a few 16-17 lb. class choppers are being taken by surfcasters throwing eels intended for bass. Flounders in Mt. Sinai harbor, fish up to 1½ lbs. on worms and clam. Chum helps. Hotspot for flounder is Quogue canal at buoy 54, with flatties up to 2 lbs. Again, lots of fish with many boats doing 70-100 fish a trip, all keepers. Striper fishing has been picky on the north shore. The fish are there, but a lot are being dropped. Moriches Inlet came alive this week with bass and bluefish at the mouth of

Kathy Swartout made this fine catch of blackfish from the beach at Wading River. Subscriber photo.

the inlet on eels. Jiggers and trollers are also picking up fish.

MT. SINAI HBR.

Ralph's Fishing Station reports that 4½ yr. old Michael Medonough of Little Neck, fishing off the beach with his dad, reeled in an 8½ lb. striped bass which hit a green crab intended for a blackfish. Right now there is good blackfishing on green crab, hermit crab and fiddlers, along any rocky areas. Seven to 8 lb. striped bass and some large blues are in respectable numbers from Rocky Point to Shoreham. Ralph has been going out himself trolling Tony Accetta #17 spoons with pork rind. A few small flounder in the bay.

KINGS PARK

Okay Bait and Tackle called to report that Bruce Bogach, Tom DiBrase and Gene Stellato had 50 nice flounder on Friday. Biggest was 1½ lbs. and all were taken on worms. Blackfishing continues very good in the area and bass are around for trollers. On Saturday, John Kollner and a friend used umbrella rigs to take four stripers along Callahan's. Excellent coot hunting for the hunters among us.

HUNTINGTON

Ronnie Ferraro of **Ronnie's Bait and Tackle** said that boatmen who braved Sunday's wind bailed the stripers at buoy 13, Eaton's Neck. Jiggers using 3 or 4 oz. Tri-Fin Tiger Tails and trollers using black and white umbrella rigs took many stripers out of the rips. Rocco Aurilliano put away 28 bass from 4-15 lbs. while John Baker and Frank Cavanaugh also scored well with the fish on Sunday. Some nice flounder scores were made on clams and worms near Target Rock and blackfishing continues with Marshall Field, 11B and Target Rock all producing the best action.

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George Valentine of **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** reported very good bass action at Eatons Neck. Most of the bass run 3-8 lbs. although fish in the 10-16 lb. range are mixed with the smaller schools. A few blues also mixed in with the stripers. Red, black and white umbrella rigs seem to be working best on the bass, although jiggers are taking fish also. Big blackfish still being taken at buoy 11B on green crabs. Smaller fish on fiddler crabs. A lot of small flounder up to 3/4 lbs. inside all the bays on worms.

Capt Don of the **Ever Ready** reports that Sunday morning's trip saw Delores Schmidt of Woodbury catch her first pool winning striped bass. John Henster celebrated his birthday with his first striper ever. Jane Snithnicde of Greenlawn deck the largest of the day, a 19 pounder. This

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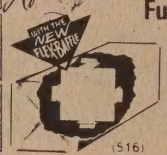

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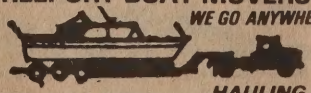

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was off Eaton's Neck. Saturday's bottom trip saw Al Mezzo bag a 2 lb. flounder. On Sunday Jim Hawkins got a 1½ lb. flounder. See ad for current sailing schedule.

GLEN COVE

John at **Glen Cove Sport Shop** said that last week's good flurry of bass action in the area slipped to the point where worm trollers are now picking away at fish. Flounder fishing on Saturday and Sunday was good with fine catches being made all over the area on sand worms.

NORTH SHORE WEST END

★ BEST BET ★

BLACKFISH

CITY ISLAND

Ebb Tide II skipper Joe Ferrara tells us that his passengers are still having pretty good blackfishing with the boat hitting the hot spots at Stamford, Norwalk and at buoy 11B. Blacks are running up to 8 lbs. gobbling up fiddlers and green crabs.

Greg at **City Island Bait and Tackle** said that boatmen continue to take blackfish at Execution Light, Tea Island and the CBS Tower both green crabs and fiddlers take fish, although the bigger tautogs show a preference for the green crabs. Greg called the flounder fishing fair, with worms accounting for most of the flatties in Eastchester Creek and the Orchard Beach Lagoon.

This trio of big tautogs were among a catch of 26 blacks landed by John Seedorf and Warren Janda. They fished aboard the "Apache" out of City Island and found that whole calico crabs worked best on the bigger fish.

SURF REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

Up until the "big blow," this fall was shaping up to be the best in several years for Long Island surf-casters. However, after a week of almost non-existent action even the most optimistic among us are having a hard time staying enthused. Night-time temperatures hovering around the freezing mark and constant wind haven't been doing much for the spirit either. Fortunately, Sunday provided a glimmer of hope for the large body of big blues spread along south shore beaches from Amagansett to Fire Island. Other than this action, the only life appeared to be along North Fork beaches where some school bass and big blues were taken by casters during the week.

The scant number of reports in this week's column are a direct reflection on the poor fishing which characterized last week.

South Shore

From his **Staten Island Sport Shop** Lenny said that the only activity in the area this past week involved shorts and school bass at Penny Beach and Cliff Street with nearly all of the fish being taken on sand worms. Bunker appear to have moved out of the area and with them the weaks and blues which were being taken at the bar at the entrance to Great Kills Harbor.

Dismal reports were filed by Artie at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** who said that all has been quiet around the Jamaica Bay bridges and Bernie Haag who told me that nothing much has been happening in the Long Beach area since the storm except an occasional small striper.

The first sign of life in the Jones Beach-West End area wasn't until the weekend, according to Lon of **Wanser's Tackle Shop** in Seaford. After a very quiet week several customers reported getting into blues at Parking Field 6 and at West End with tins on Saturday and Sunday. Some of the fish were up to 14 lbs., according to Lon.

The only positive report emanating from the Robert Moses area involved the 17½ lb. bluefish taken by fellow Great South Bay Anglers Club member Curt Hambsch on Wednesday at Parking Field 4. Curt took the huge chopper on a Krocodile spoon. Unfortunately, it was the only fish taken on the beach that day. Several reports of blues along the beach at Moriches and Shinnecock on Sunday with most of the fish in the 8-14 lb. range. Prior to Sunday, however, things had been dead in this area as well. Speaking from his Shinnecock Tackle Shop, Thom Speckenbach told me that big choppers were taken on tins and popping plugs along Southampton Beaches from the Shinnecock Inlet jetty east as far as one wished to travel. Paul Hodges and his son Parker were among those who checked in big blues on Sunday. Thom also looked over a bass which he was told weighed 60 lbs. by an angler en route home from Montauk over the weekend. I could not get any other information on this fish however.

From **Johnny's Tackle Shop** in Montauk, Johnny Kronuch didn't know anything of the "60 lber." either. He did, however, weigh in a 49 lb. striper for John Mastroodi Friday afternoon. The fish was taken on the south side on an eel during the day. John described it as a slow week overall with a scattered fish weighed in here and there. Dan Mass took a 44½ lb. striper earlier in the week at North Bar. George Labardera had a 36 lber. Friday night, while Dennis O'Connell took a 33 and Tom Sherry a 26 over the weekend. There was a flurry of activity with shorts and schoolies at False Bar Wednesday and Thursday evenings but this fishing was not repeated on Friday.

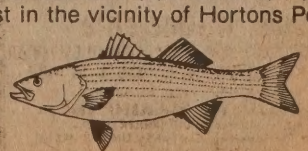
North Shore

North Shore reports were no better than they have been most of the season, with the exception of the week prior to the storm. Greg from **City Island Bait and Tackle** spoke of a slow week in the area with bluefish being totally absent and a just a few small stripers being taken.

In the Glen Cove area, word from the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** was that last week's encouraging flurry of bass action went by the boards this past week an occasional school bass being picked by those working at it. No blues here either.

In the Huntington area, George Valentine of **Four Winds Bait and Tackle** told me the only reports of any surf action that have come to his attention recently involve some shorts and school bass being taken down at Lilco. While George couldn't be sure what the fish were being taken on, it's a pretty safe bet that worms, Tri-Fin eel worms and small Rebels are working.

The best news that Stan at the **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** relayed involved the South Shore rather than the North Shore. He was told by several of his customers that there were plenty of big blues on the beach near Shinnecock Inlet over the weekend. Locally an occasional big chopper is taken on bait near the Shoreham jetties. Stan did get wind of some bass and bluefish action to the east in the vicinity of Hortons Point.



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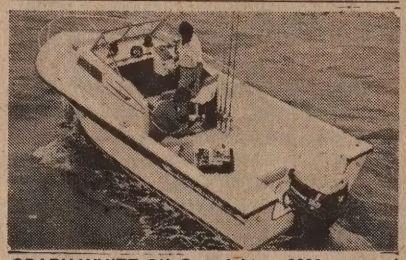

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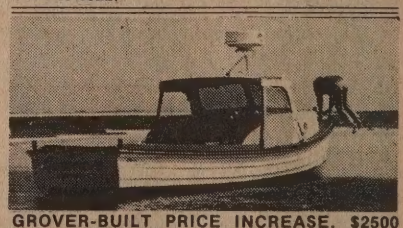

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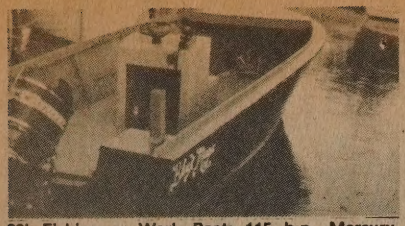

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